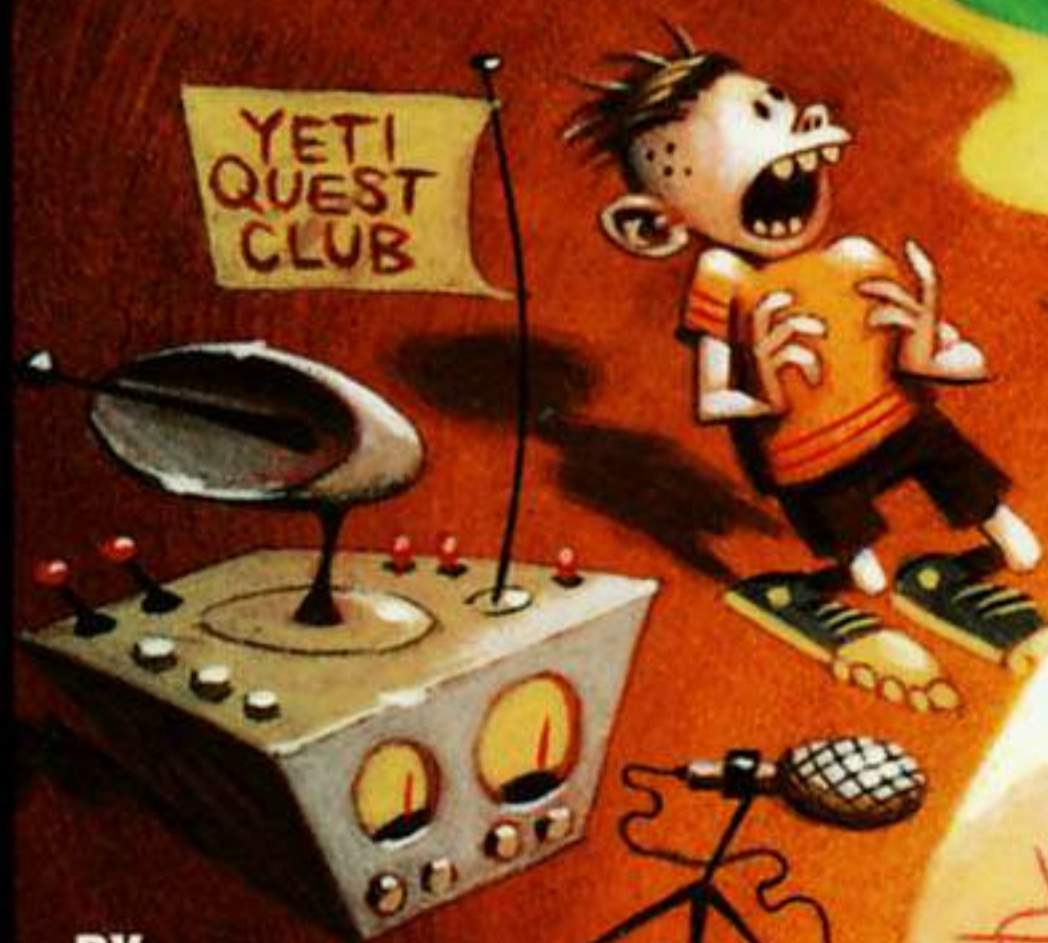




ALLEGEDLY TRUE TALES OF  
PARANORMAL PHENOMENA!

# THE BIG BOOK OF THE UNEXPLAINED



BY  
**DOUG MOENCH**  
and OVER 40 OF THE WORLD'S  
TOP COMICS ARTISTS!





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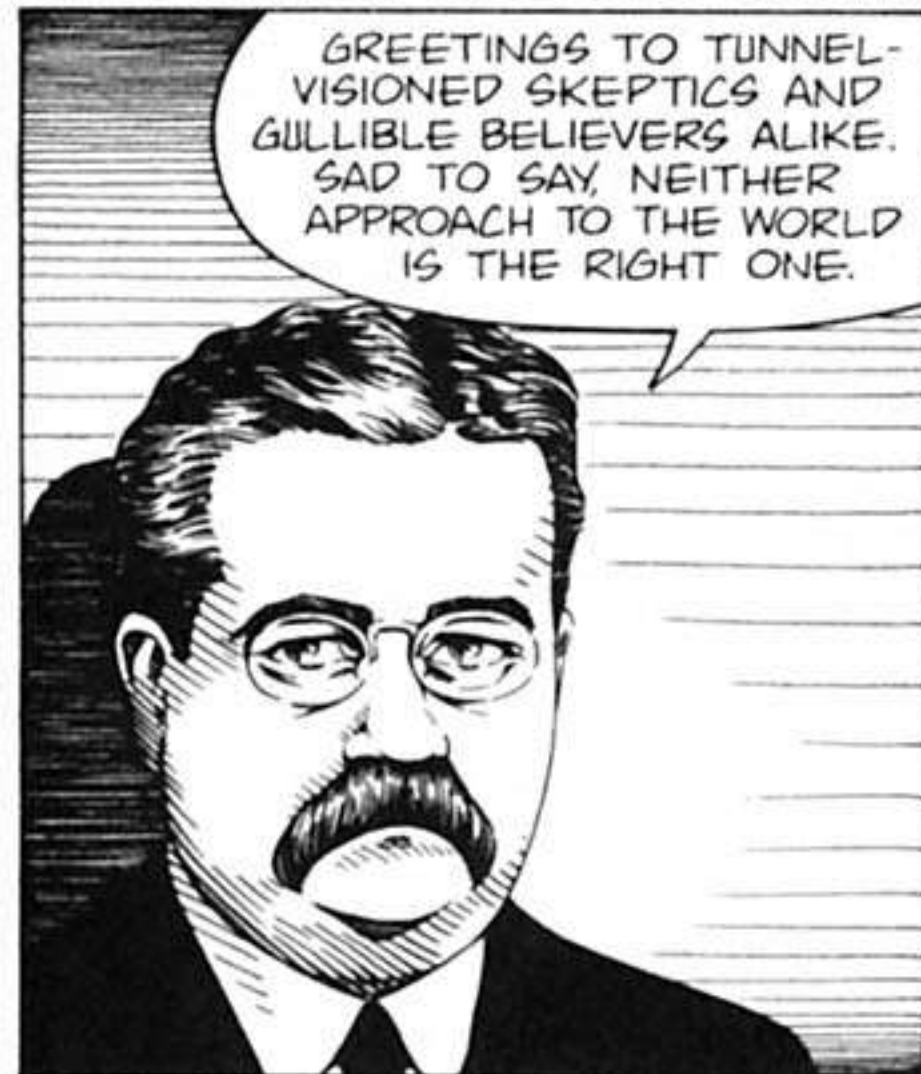
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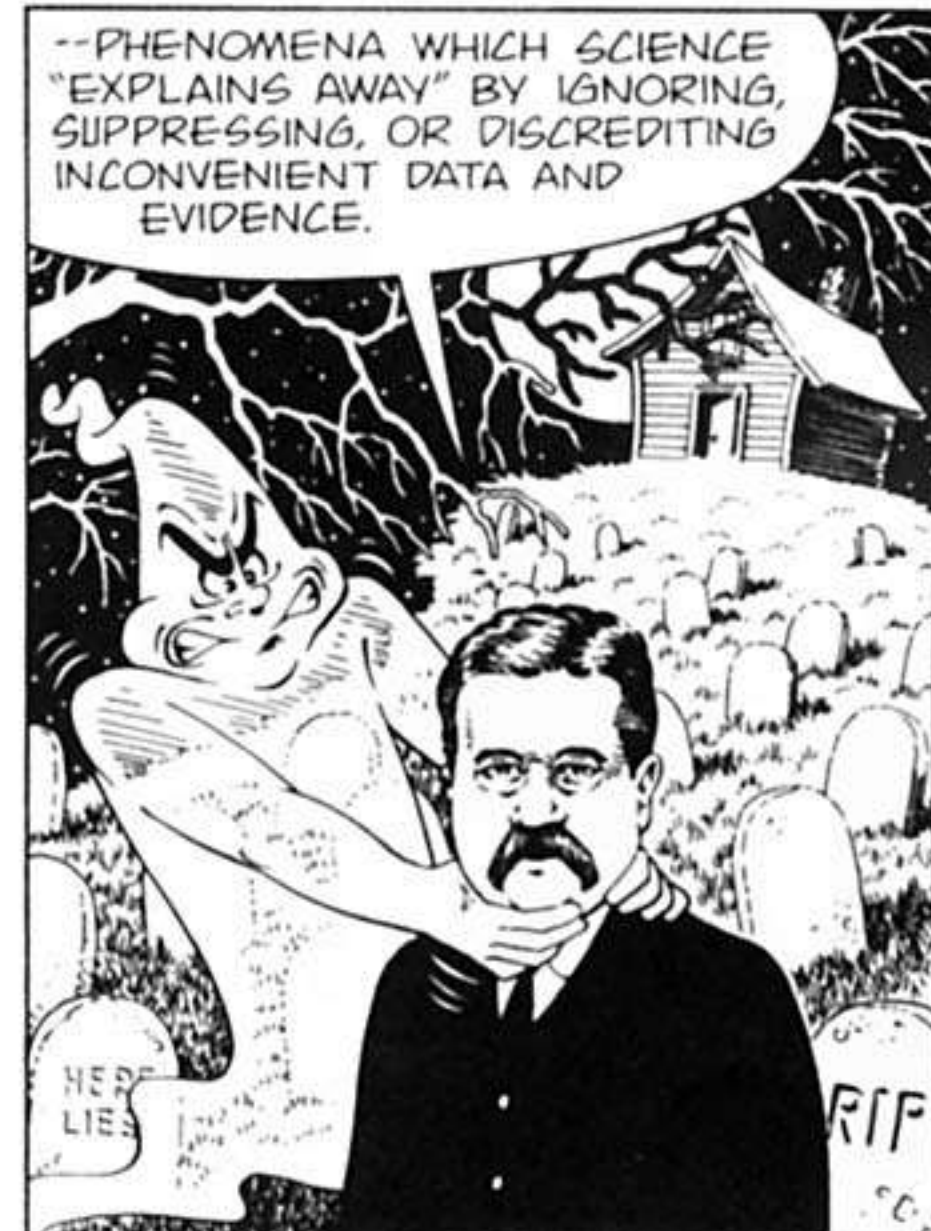
# An Introduction



GREETINGS TO TUNNEL-VISIONED SKEPTICS AND GULLIBLE BELIEVERS ALIKE. SAD TO SAY, NEITHER APPROACH TO THE WORLD IS THE RIGHT ONE.



MY NAME IS CHARLES FORT. BETWEEN MY BIRTH IN 1874 AND MY DEATH IN 1932, I CATALOGUED A "PROCESSION OF THE DAMNED," MEANING UNSTUDIED ODDITIES AND "IMPOSSIBLE" OCCURRENCES--



--PHENOMENA WHICH SCIENCE "EXPLAINS AWAY" BY IGNORING, SUPPRESSING, OR DISCREDITING INCONVENIENT DATA AND EVIDENCE.



AS H. L. MENCKEN NOTED: "FOR EVERY COMPLEX PROBLEM THERE IS A SOLUTION WHICH IS SIMPLE, NEAT, AND WRONG"—REMINDING US THAT UNEXPLAINED MYSTERIES ARE NEVER SIMPLE JUST BECAUSE SOMEONE EXPLAINS THEM AWAY WITH AN UNCOMPLICATED ANSWER.

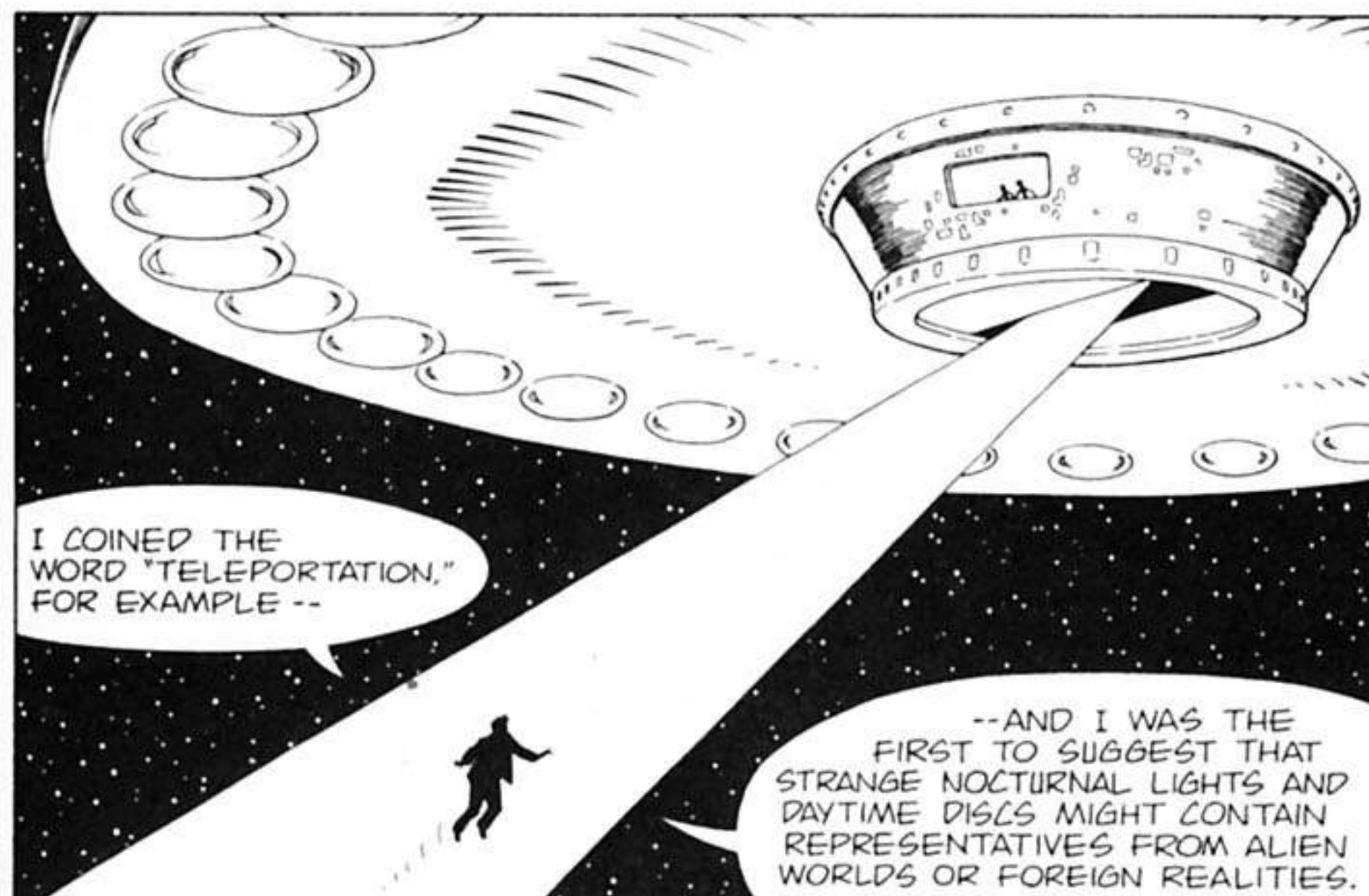


SIR JOHN HERSCHEL PUT IT THIS WAY: "WE OUGHT TO DISMISS ANY PRECONCEIVED NOTION OF WHAT **OUGHT TO BE**, AND CONTENT OURSELVES WITH OBSERVING, AS A PLAIN MATTER OF FACT, **WHAT IS.**"

INDEED—NO MATTER **WHAT** IT IS WE SEE.



"THE KNOWN IS FINITE, THE UNKNOWN INFINITE," WROTE THOMAS HUXLEY. I AGREE. IN THE COURSE OF MY OWN OBSERVATION AND COMMENTARY, I FOUND **ALL MANNER** OF DAMNED WEIRDNESS.



I COINED THE WORD "TELEPORTATION," FOR EXAMPLE --

--AND I WAS THE FIRST TO SUGGEST THAT STRANGE NOCTURNAL LIGHTS AND DAYTIME DISCS MIGHT CONTAIN REPRESENTATIVES FROM ALIEN WORLDS OR FOREIGN REALITIES.



I EVEN ADVANCED THE UNPOPULAR NOTION THAT OUR WORLD MIGHT BE NOTHING MORE THAN A PLANET-SIZED **PANTRY** --

--STOCKED WITH **US.**







# CHAPTER ONE

## HIGH STRANGENESS

We begin with the simply yet profoundly weird: crop circles and synchronicities, ley lines and mysterious megaliths, crystal power and locomotive stones, anomalous rainfalls and the Super-Sargasso Sea, Out-of-Place Artifacts and ancient civilizations, astrology and teleportation. These are the phenomena for which our “normal” paradigms find no room. These things empirically *cannot be*, and yet — apparently — they *are*.

Contemplating such enigmas, science shivers, then scoffs. In no particular order, we do both or neither — and *then* some. And by the end of this chapter, we also harbor our first suspicions that all of this strangeness is either sheer bunk... or somehow *linked*.

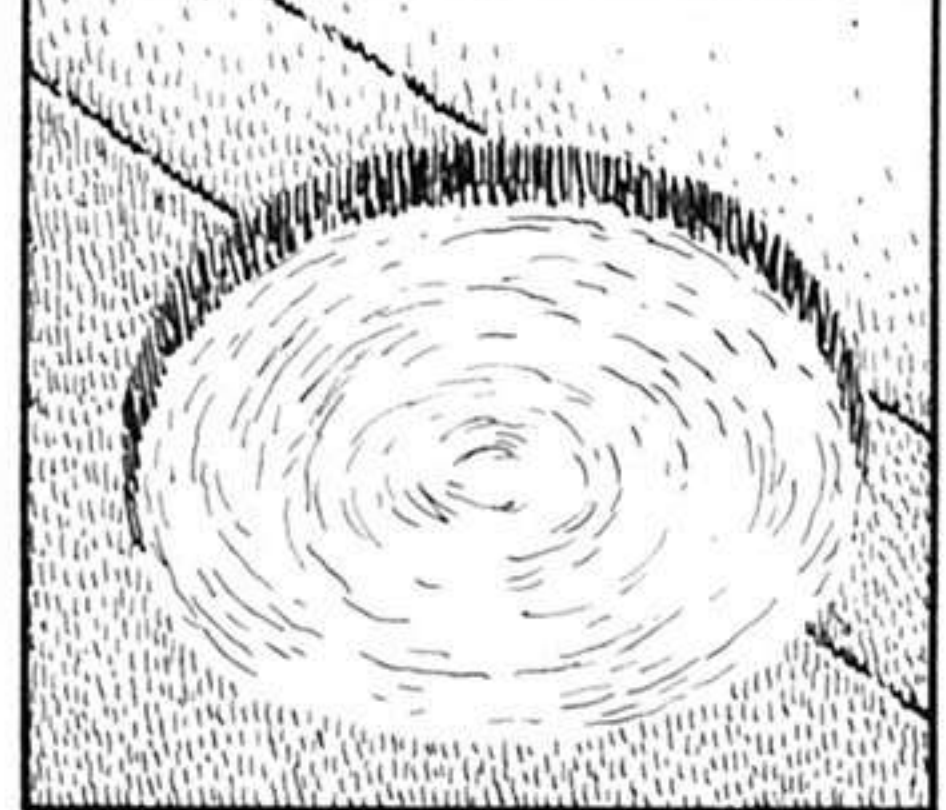


AS THE PRINCIPLES OF ZEN INFORM US, NOT ALL MESSAGES ARE MEANT TO BE UNDERSTOOD—SOMETIMES IT IS BETTER TO SIMPLY PONDER AND APPRECIATE PURE FORM AND ELUSIVE MYSTERY.

ON THE OTHER HAND, THERE MAY WELL BE A CERTAIN CIRCULAR LOGIC, AND EVEN WISDOM, EMBODIED IN THOSE--

## AGGRAVATING AGRIGLYPHS

FULLY APPRECIATED ONLY FROM ABOVE AND FIRST NOTICED IN LATE-70S ENGLAND, CROP CIRCLES ARE MYSTERIOUS DEPRESSIONS OCCURRING OVERNIGHT, PERHAPS IN MERE SECONDS, PRIMARILY IN FIELDS OF WHEAT, RYE, BARLEY, AND RAPESEED.



THE ANATOMY OF A SIMPLE CIRCLE IS CHARACTERIZED BY A CLOCKWISE OR COUNTER-CLOCKWISE SWIRL OR SPIRAL OF FLATTENED BUT NOT CRUSHED STALKS, OFTEN INTRICATELY WOVEN OR EVEN "BRAIDED."

THE STEMS OF AFFECTED PLANTS ARE TYPICALLY BENT (BUT NOT BROKEN) CLOSE TO THE GROUND, AS IF MADE MOMENTARILY MALLEABLE AND THEN SOMEHOW REHARDENED.

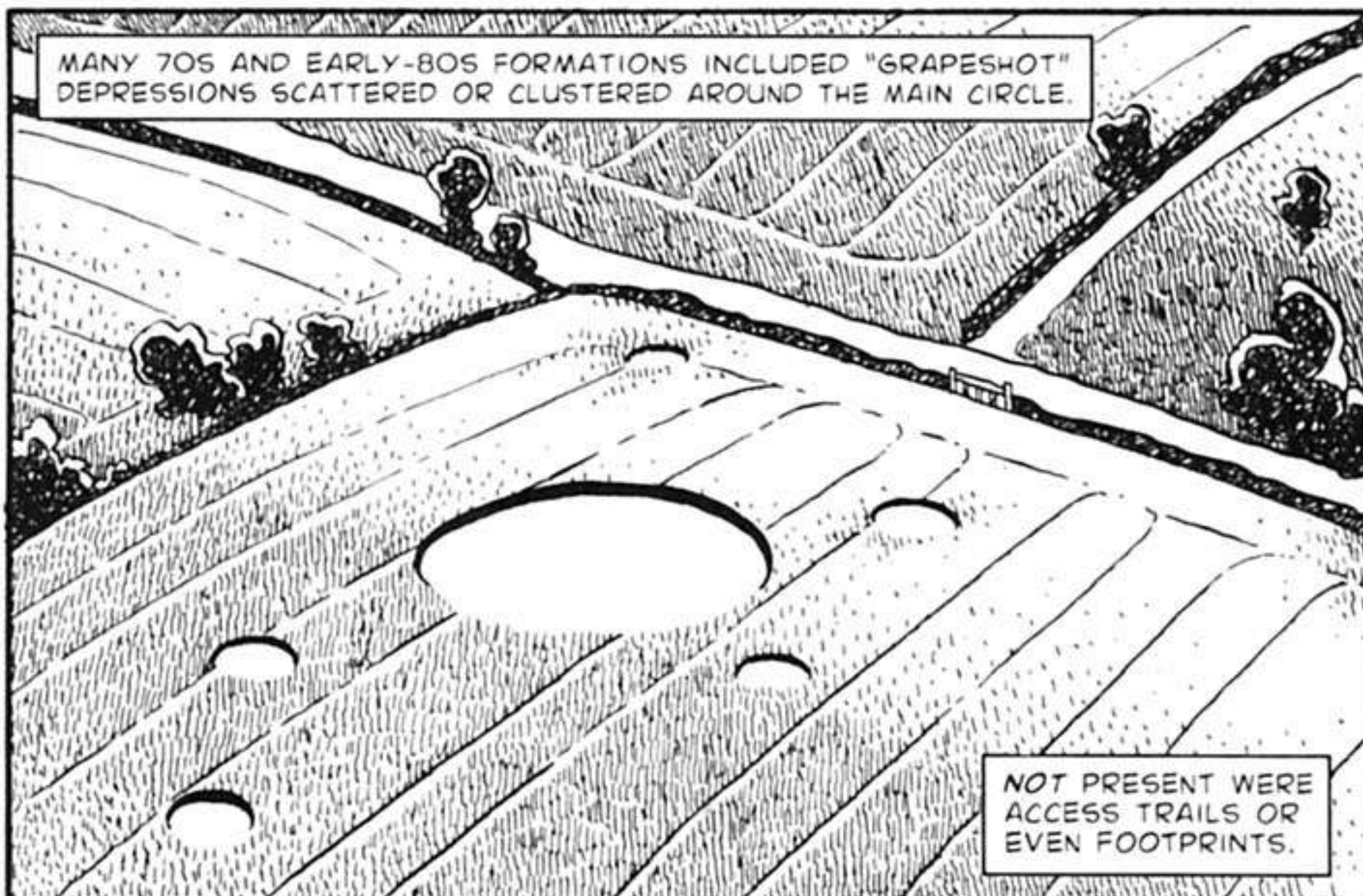


SINCE THESE FLATTENED CEREAL PLANTS CONTINUE TO GROW AND ARE ROUTINELY HARVESTED (REAPING NOT AT ALL WHAT WAS SOWN), CROP CIRCLES ARE LITERALLY CONSUMED BY HUMAN BEINGS.

YUM--  
BREAD FOR  
THE HEAD?



MANY 70S AND EARLY-80S FORMATIONS INCLUDED "GRAPESHOT" DEPRESSIONS SCATTERED OR CLUSTERED AROUND THE MAIN CIRCLE.



NOT PRESENT WERE ACCESS TRAILS OR EVEN FOOTPRINTS.

ALTHOUGH WIDELY NOTED AND PUBLICIZED ONLY IN RECENT YEARS, RECORDED CIRCLES ARE APPARENTLY NOTHING NEW



AS WITNESSED IN THIS 1678 ILLUSTRATION OF "THE MOWING DEVIL."

Aug 11 22th. 1678.



PAGAN AND CELTIC MYTH (OR HISTORY) IS RICH WITH TALES OF "FAIRY RINGS" AND "ROUND DANCES" ATTRIBUTED TO UNEARTHLY "WEE FOLK."



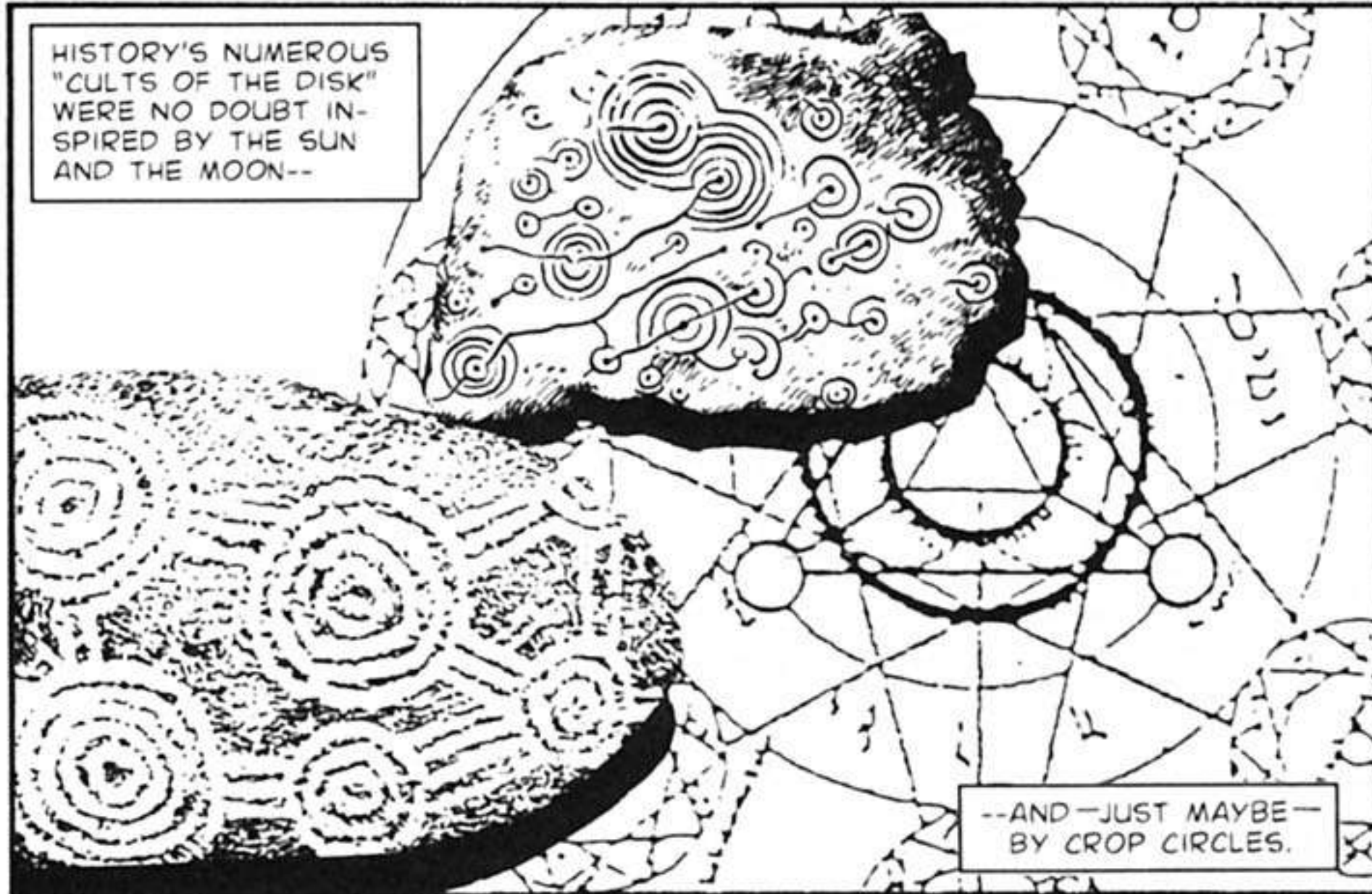
VIRTUALLY EVERY CULTURE ON EARTH OBSERVED SOME FORM OF CIRCULAR WORSHIP, AS DOCUMENTED IN PETROGLYPHS, CAVE PAINTINGS, AND OTHER ANCIENT GRAFFITI.



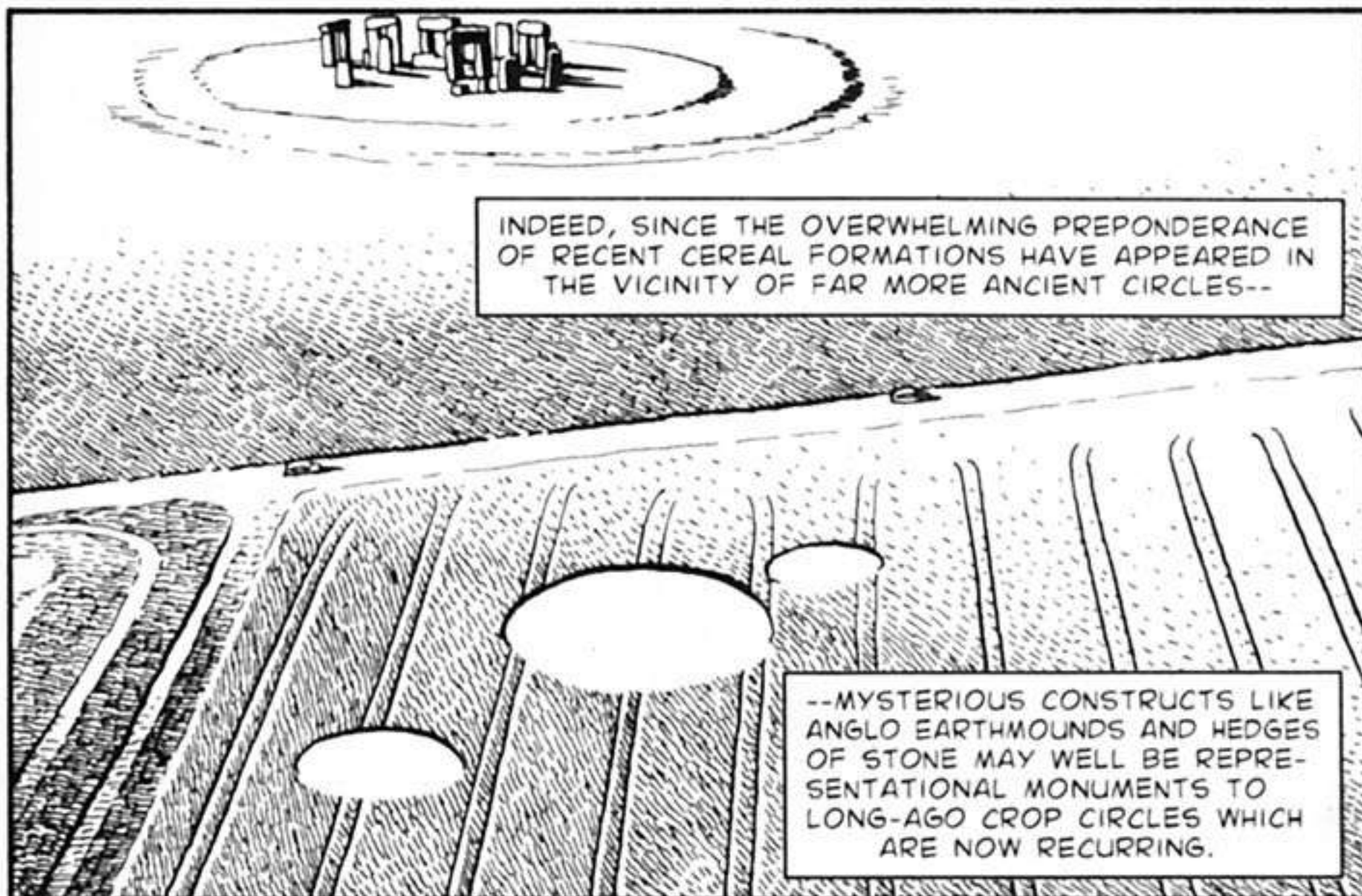
--WHILE IN NORTH AMERICA, LAND OF "MEDICINE WHEELS," WE FIND THIS SPIRAL INCISED IN ROCK BY PRECURSORS OF THE HOPI INDIANS.



HISTORY'S NUMEROUS "CULTS OF THE DISK" WERE NO DOUBT INSPIRED BY THE SUN AND THE MOON--



INDEED, SINCE THE OVERWHELMING PREPONDERANCE OF RECENT CEREAL FORMATIONS HAVE APPEARED IN THE VICINITY OF FAR MORE ANCIENT CIRCLES--



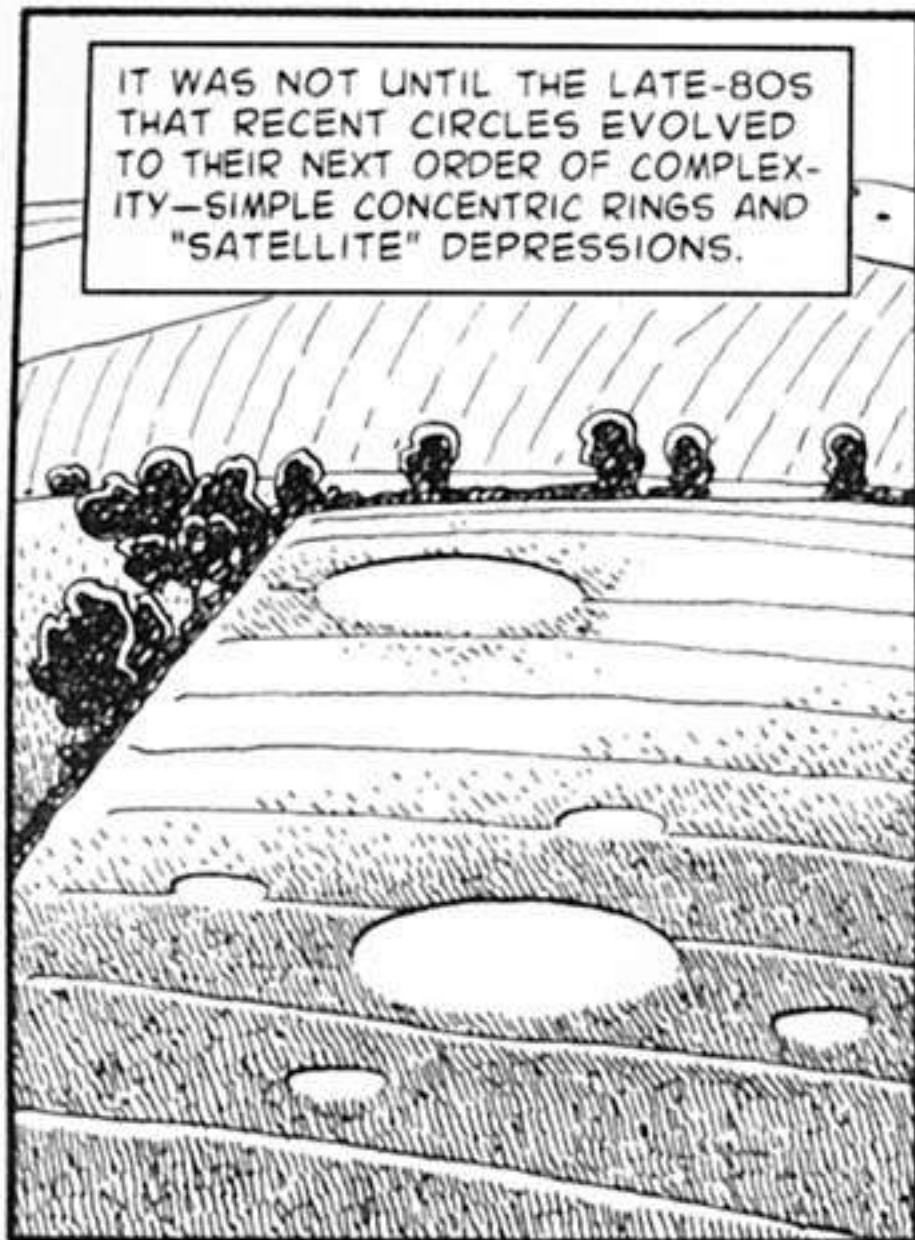
--MYSTERIOUS CONSTRUCTS LIKE ANGLO EARTHMOUNDS AND HEDGES OF STONE MAY WELL BE REPRESENTATIONAL MONUMENTS TO LONG-AGO CROP CIRCLES WHICH ARE NOW RECURRING.

IN A REVERSAL (OR REPETITION) OF THIS POSSIBILITY, CROP FORMATION OF JULY 11, 1992 PRECISELY MIMICKED THE ORIGINAL STATE OF AVEBURY HENGE.

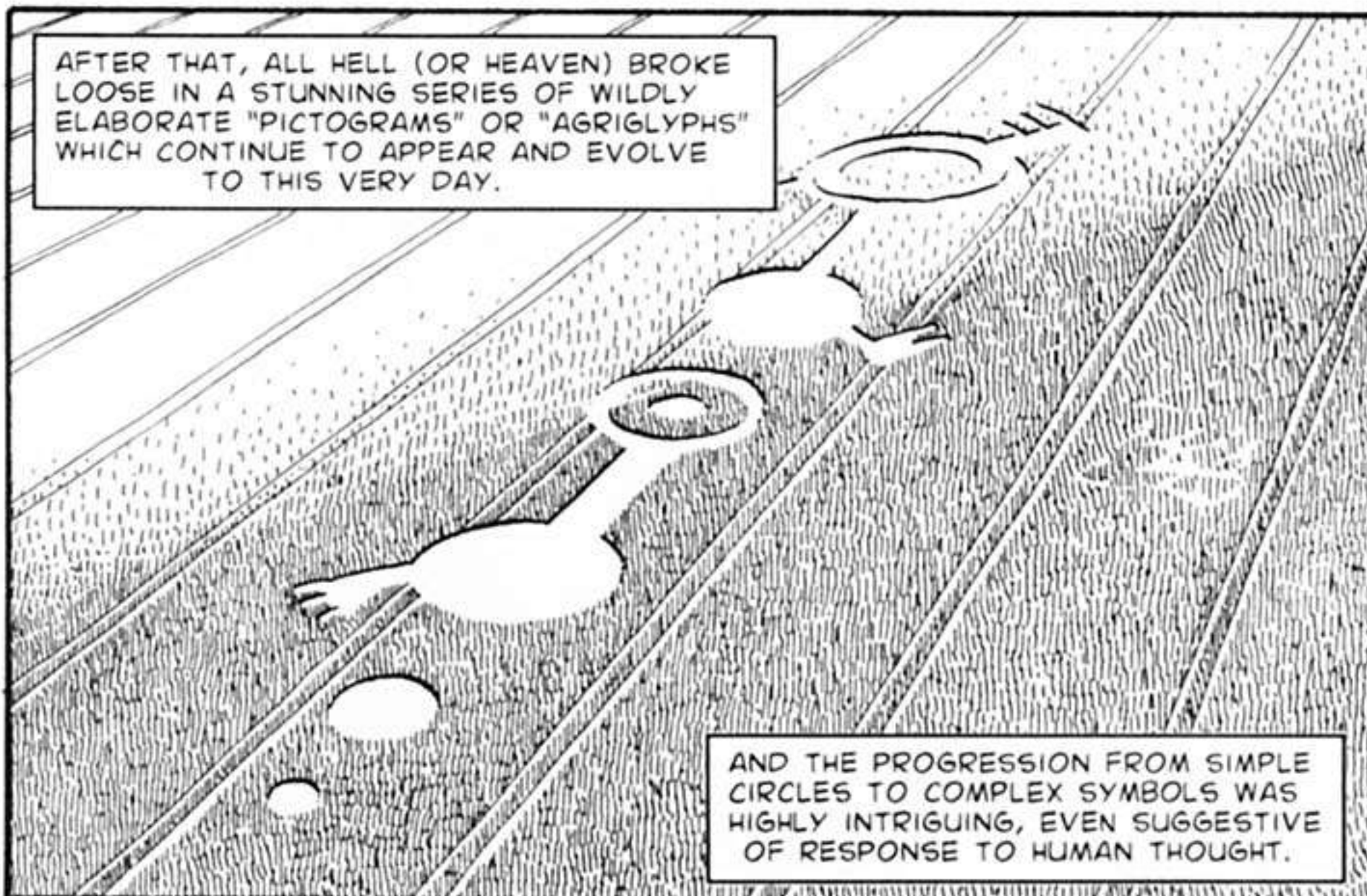




IT WAS NOT UNTIL THE LATE-80S THAT RECENT CIRCLES EVOLVED TO THEIR NEXT ORDER OF COMPLEXITY—SIMPLE CONCENTRIC RINGS AND "SATELLITE" DEPRESSIONS.

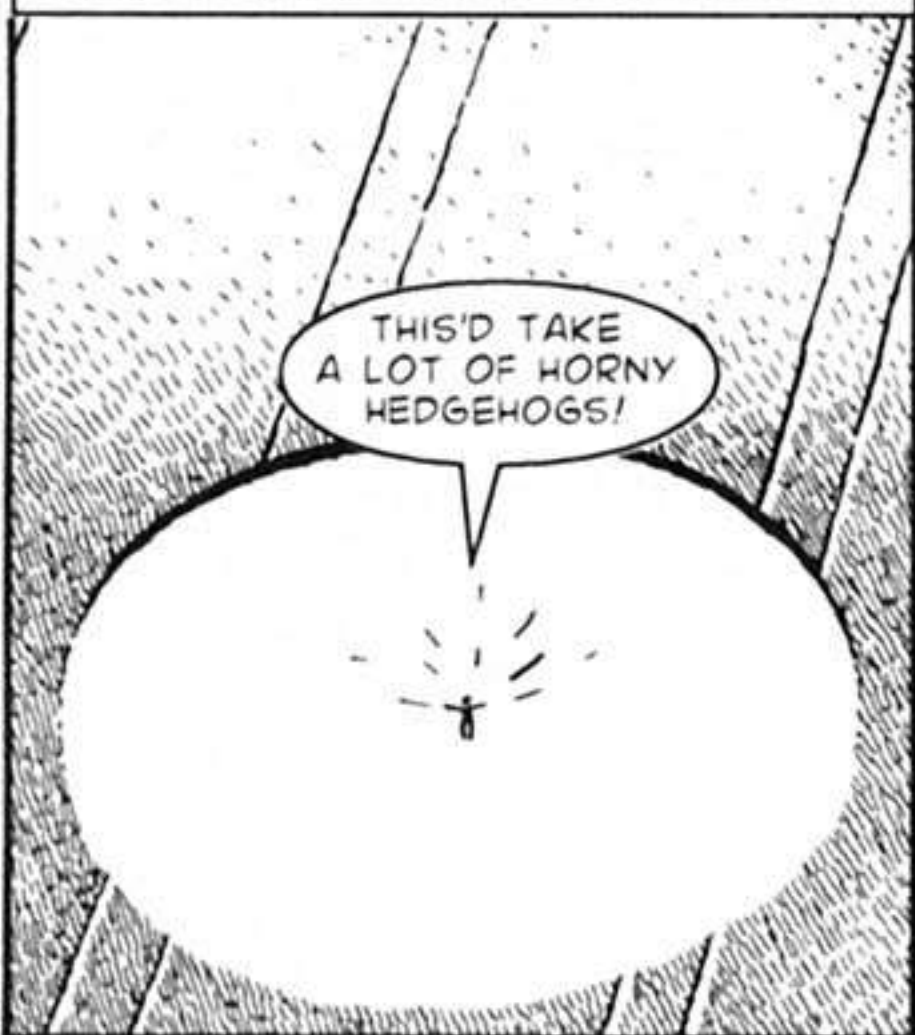


AFTER THAT, ALL HELL (OR HEAVEN) BROKE LOOSE IN A STUNNING SERIES OF WILDLY ELABORATE "PICTOGRAMS" OR "AGRIGLYPHS" WHICH CONTINUE TO APPEAR AND EVOLVE TO THIS VERY DAY.



AND THE PROGRESSION FROM SIMPLE CIRCLES TO COMPLEX SYMBOLS WAS HIGHLY INTRIGUING, EVEN SUGGESTIVE OF RESPONSE TO HUMAN THOUGHT.

WHEN THE FIRST MODEST DEPRESSIONS WERE BLAMED ON "RUTTING HEDGEHOGS," FOR EXAMPLE, THE CIRCLES PROMPTLY GREW TO MAMMOTH PROPORTIONS.



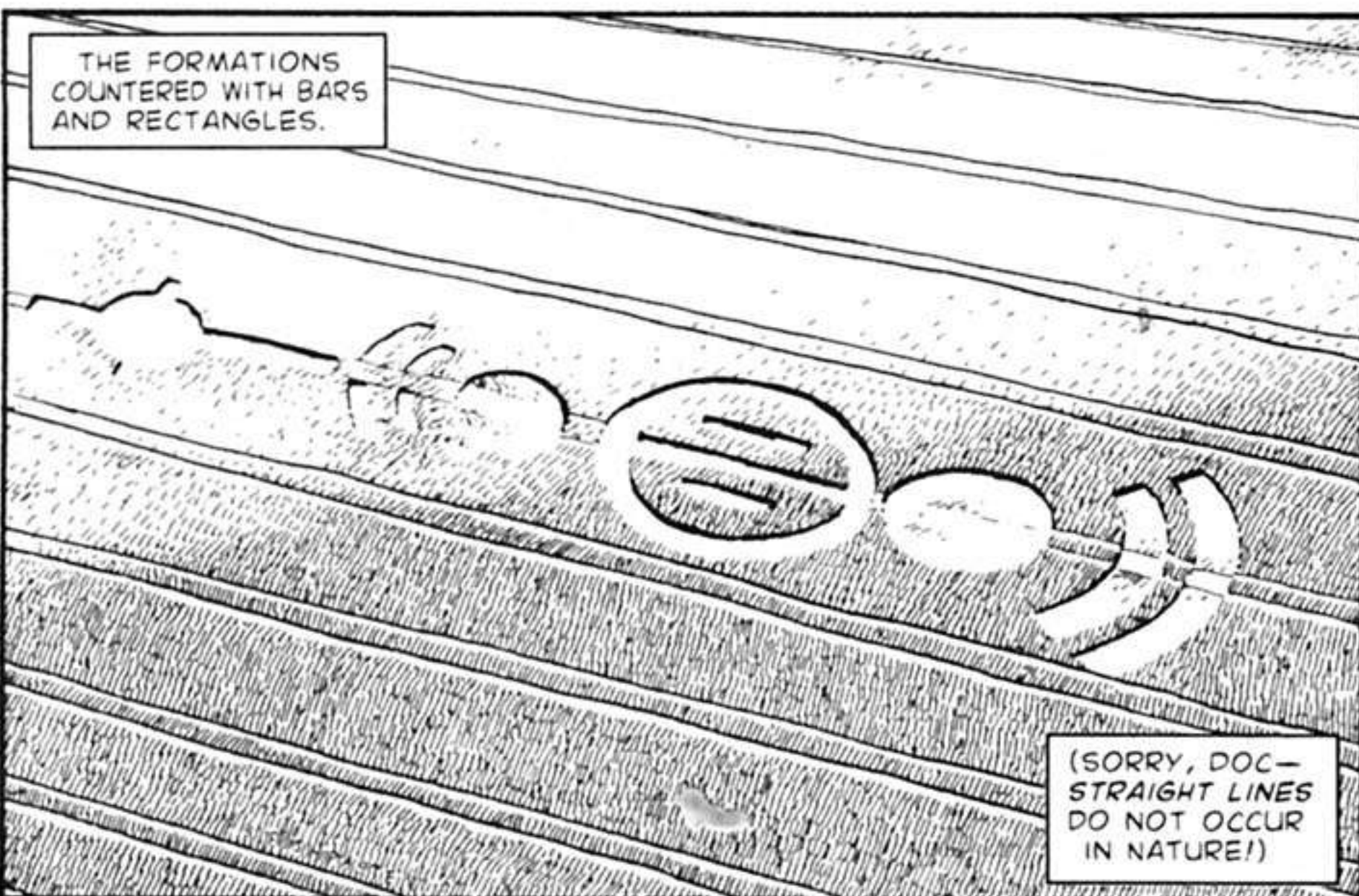
THE SUBSEQUENT "HELICOPTER PROP-WASH" THEORY CRASHED AND BURNED IN THE WAKE OF SUDDEN SATELLITE AND RING FORMATIONS.



AND AS SOON AS DR. TERENCE MEADEN ADVANCED HIS METEOROLOGICAL "PLASMA THEORY"



THE FORMATIONS COUNTERED WITH BARS AND RECTANGLES.



(SORRY, DOC—STRAIGHT LINES DO NOT OCCUR IN NATURE!)

IT WAS AS IF THE COSMIC TRICKSTER DELIGHTED IN MOCKING THE THEORISTS, PERVERSELY DEMOLISHING EACH SUCCESSIVE SOLUTION AND FORCING US TO SCRATCH OUR HEADS EVER HARDER.





WORLDWIDE HEADLINES IN 1991 TRANSFORMED THE "HOAX THEORY" INTO THE FINAL SOLUTION WHEN TWO CHAPS NAMED DOUGLAS BOWER AND DAVID CHORLEY "CONFESSED":

WE DID 'EM!



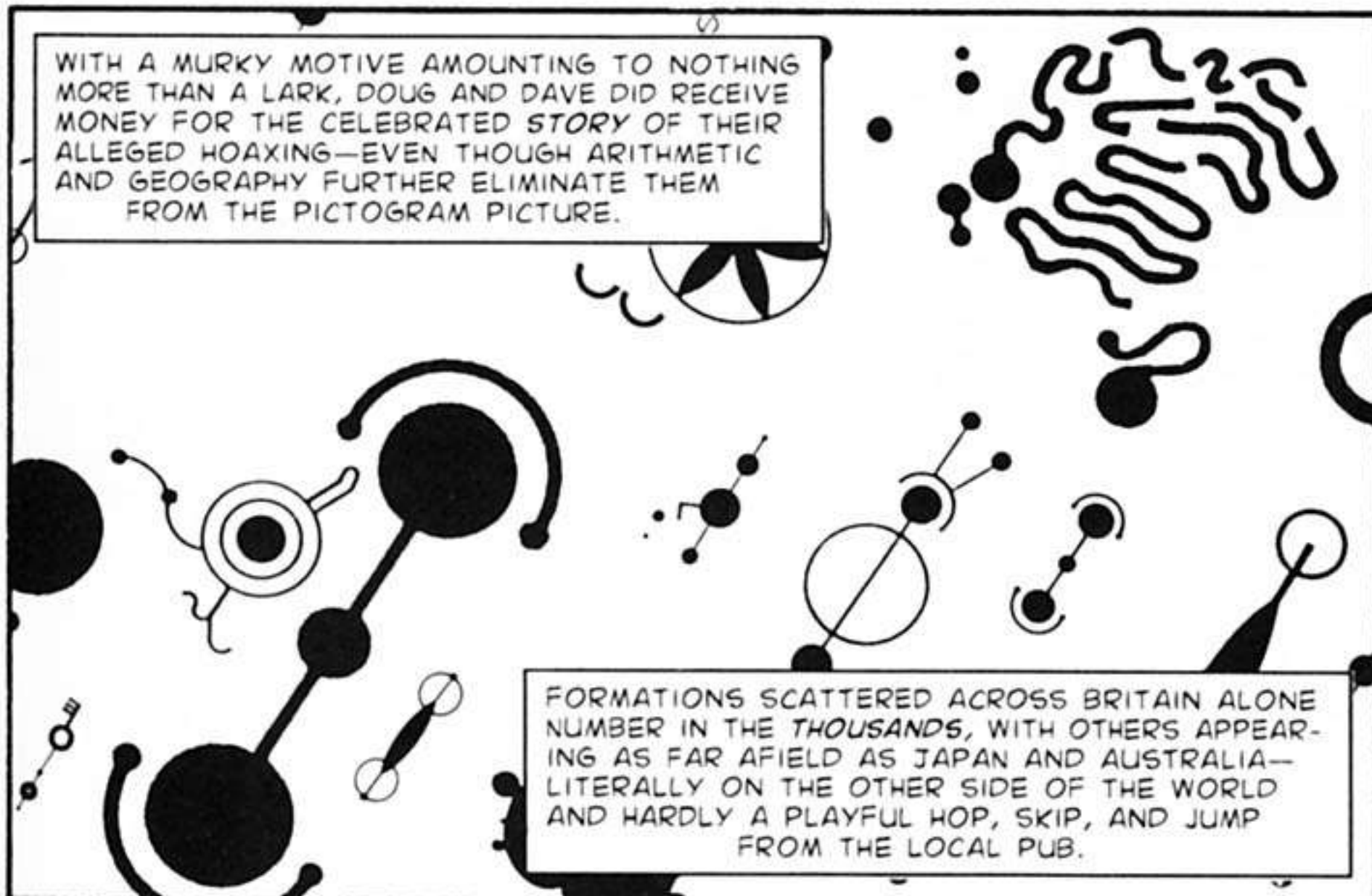
LATE NIGHTS AFTER THE PUB!

ALTHOUGH DOUG AND DAVE HAVE DEMONSTRATED THE CREATION OF SIMPLE (AND CRUDELY CRUSHED) CIRCLES, THEY HAVE NEVER DUPLICATED THE INTRICACY OR COMPLEXITY OF CEREALOLOGY'S MORE HAUNTING SUBJECTS--

--AND, IN FACT, HAVE DENIED ANY ASSOCIATION WITH THE MOST SPECTACULAR FORMATIONS, A FACT WHICH HAS NOT MADE WORLDWIDE HEADLINES.



WITH A MURKY MOTIVE AMOUNTING TO NOTHING MORE THAN A LARK, DOUG AND DAVE DID RECEIVE MONEY FOR THE CELEBRATED STORY OF THEIR ALLEGED HOAXING--EVEN THOUGH ARITHMETIC AND GEOGRAPHY FURTHER ELIMINATE THEM FROM THE PICTOGRAM PICTURE.



FORMATIONS SCATTERED ACROSS BRITAIN ALONE NUMBER IN THE THOUSANDS, WITH OTHERS APPEARING AS FAR AFIELD AS JAPAN AND AUSTRALIA--LITERALLY ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WORLD AND HARDLY A PLAYFUL HOP, SKIP, AND JUMP FROM THE LOCAL PUB.

WITH DOUG AND DAVE NOW RETIRED, THE CIRCLES CONTINUE TO APPEAR--WHILE ONE RESEARCHER MAINTAINS THEY RECEIVED PAYMENT FROM AN ALLEGED FRONT FOR BRITISH INTELLIGENCE.

DISCREDIT THOSE DAMNED CIRCLES--ON GROUNDS OF NATIONAL SECURITY!



OTHER HOAXERS INCLUDE JIM SCHNABEL (WHO BLAMED SATANISTS FOR THOSE CIRCLES HE DID NOT CREATE) AND THE BRITISH ARMY (FOR REASONS OR RESEARCH STILL UNEXPLAINED)--



--BUT EVEN IN PROVEN HOAXES, THERE MAY BE SOMETHING WEIRD AT WORK.

SEVERAL PROFESSED CIRCLE MAKERS (INCLUDING DOUG BOWER) HAVE ADMITTED TO BEING "INSPIRED" BY UNKNOWN FORCES--

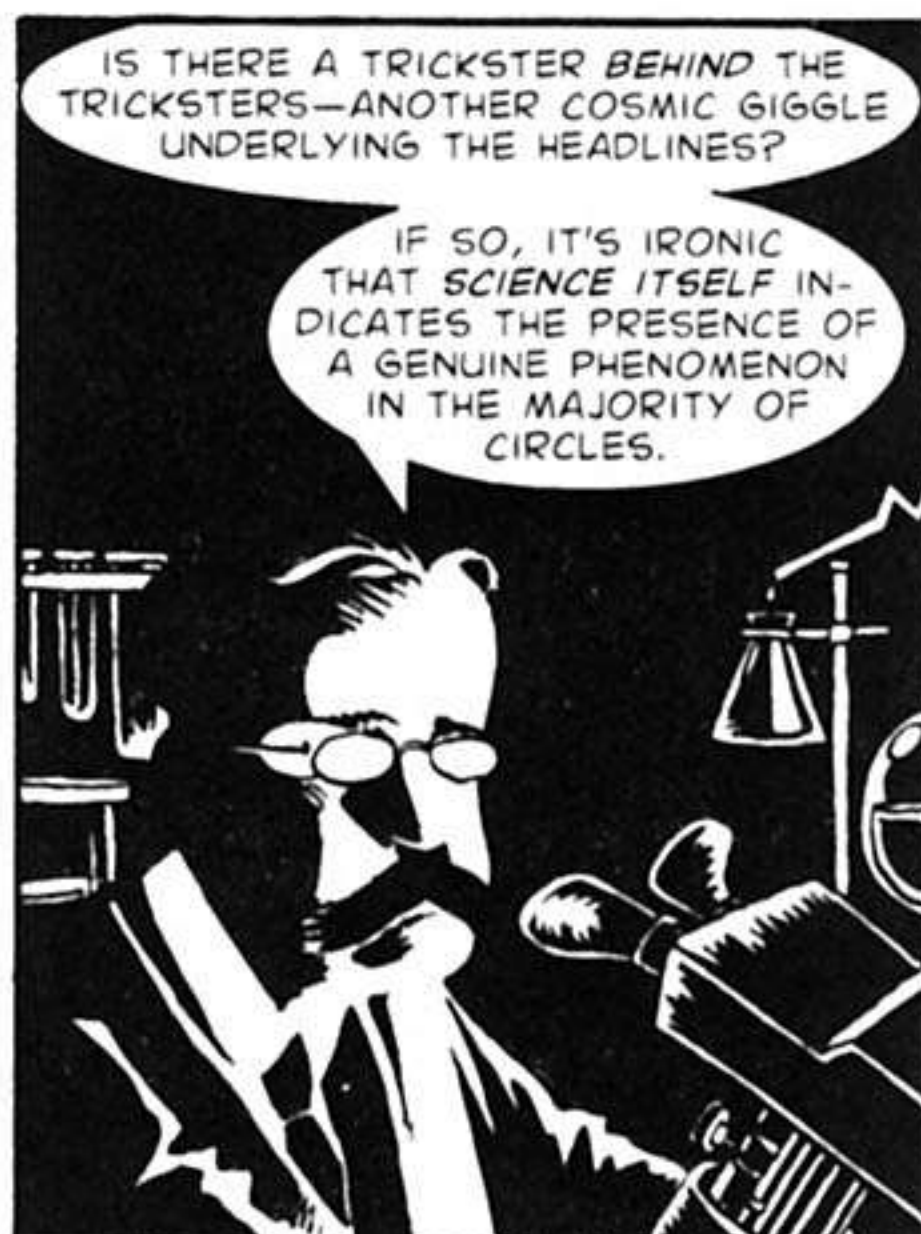


I HAVE OFTEN ASKED MYSELF WHERE THE IDEAS CAME FROM.

--WHILE OTHERS FEEL THEY HAVE BEEN "USED LIKE A TOOL."

IS THERE A TRICKSTER BEHIND THE TRICKSTERS--ANOTHER COSMIC GIGGLE UNDERLYING THE HEADLINES?

IF SO, IT'S IRONIC THAT SCIENCE ITSELF INDICATES THE PRESENCE OF A GENUINE PHENOMENON IN THE MAJORITY OF CIRCLES.

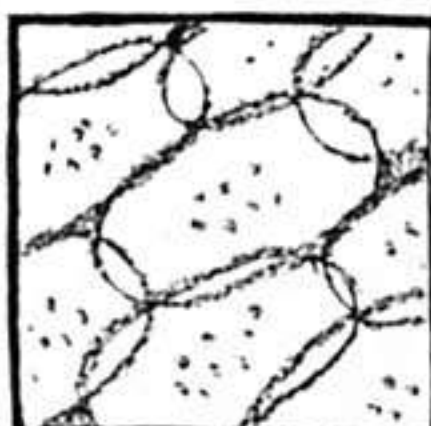
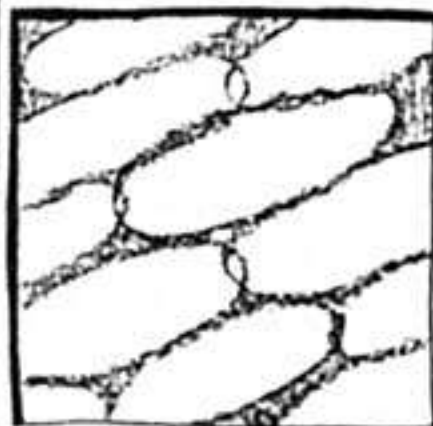




PHOTOMICROGRAPHS OF "NORMAL" AND "CIRCLED" PLANTS REVEAL CHANGES ON A CELLULAR LEVEL.

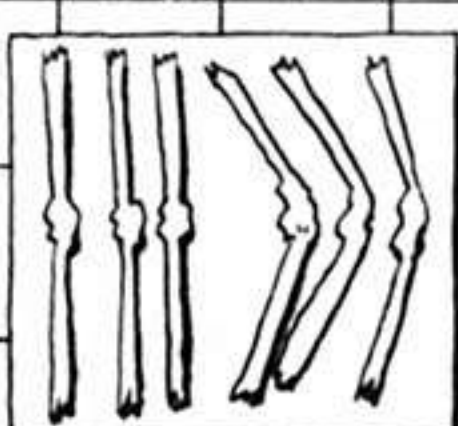
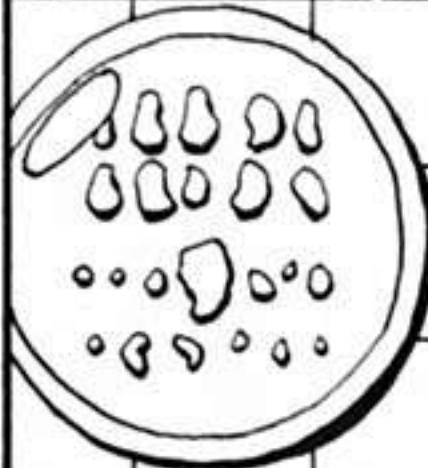
'Normal'

'Circled'



RADIOACTIVE ANOMALIES HAVE ALSO BEEN OBSERVED IN AFFECTED PLANTS--

--AS WELL AS EVIDENCE OF RAPID INTERNAL HEATING, NOT TO MENTION ALTERED SEEDS AND STEM NODES, ALL CAUSED BY NO KNOWN DISEASE.



RESEARCHER COLIN ANDREWS REPORTS "TRILLING" AND "THE RUSTLING OF STATIC ELECTRICITY" IN AND NEAR CIRCLES--INDICATIVE OF A MYSTERIOUS ENERGY DETECTED BY VARIOUS OTHER MEANS.

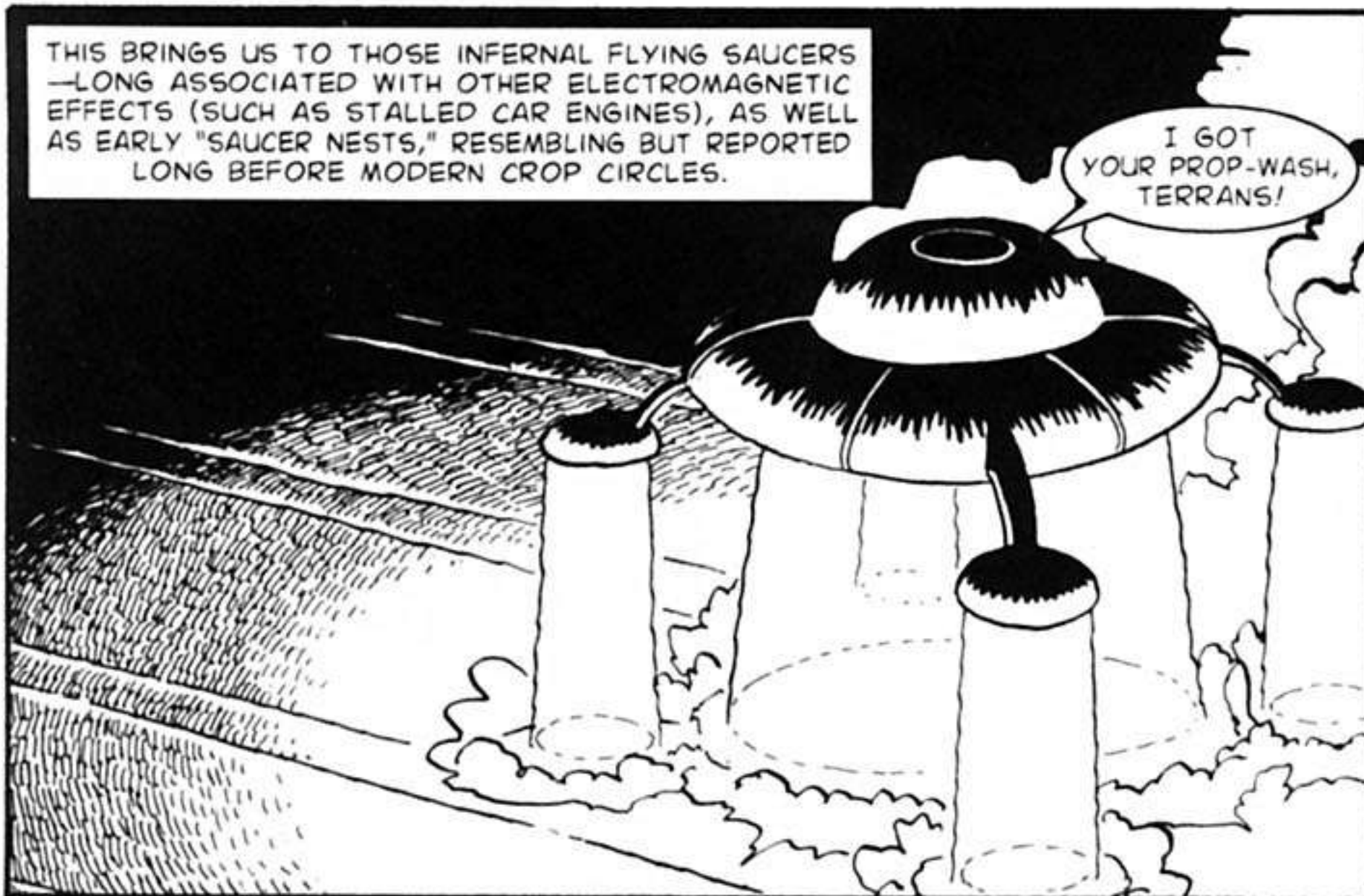
YAOW!  
WHAT'S WITH THE  
FEEDBACK?!

ELECTRO-  
MAGNETISM--  
FROM THE LEY  
LINES.



THIS BRINGS US TO THOSE INFERNAL FLYING SAUCERS--LONG ASSOCIATED WITH OTHER ELECTROMAGNETIC EFFECTS (SUCH AS STALLED CAR ENGINES), AS WELL AS EARLY "SAUCER NESTS," RESEMBLING BUT REPORTED LONG BEFORE MODERN CROP CIRCLES.

I GOT  
YOUR PROP-WASH,  
TERRANS!



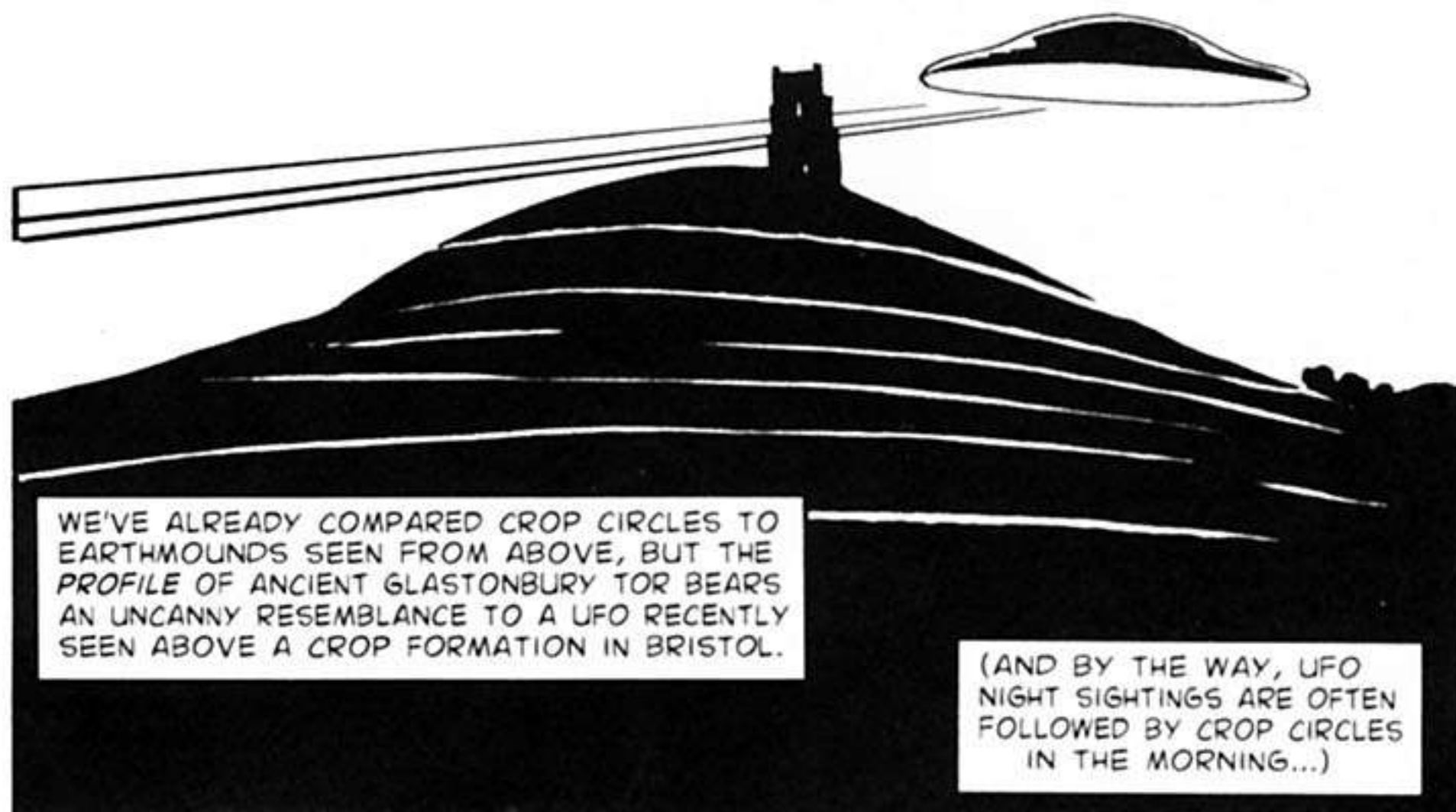
ALSO LINKED TO UFOS ARE ICE RINGS, AQUA-SOLID ANALOGS OF CROP CIRCLES WHICH LOOK LIKE THE FLASH-FROZEN RIPPLES OF A STONE TOSSED INTO WATER--BUT WHICH PROBABLY ARE CONCENTRIC MELTINGS.



AND THESE STRANGE RINGS APPEARED IN 1991 ON A ROCK PLATEAU IN PUERTO RICO, UFO HOT-SPOT AT THE TIME.



WE'VE ALREADY COMPARED CROP CIRCLES TO EARTHMOUNDS SEEN FROM ABOVE, BUT THE PROFILE OF ANCIENT GLASTONBURY TOR BEARS AN UNCANNY RESEMBLANCE TO A UFO RECENTLY SEEN ABOVE A CROP FORMATION IN BRISTOL.



(AND BY THE WAY, UFO  
NIGHT SIGHTINGS ARE OFTEN  
FOLLOWED BY CROP CIRCLES  
IN THE MORNING...)





SMALL LUMINOUS WHITE SPHERES HAVE BEEN REPEATEDLY OBSERVED (AND VIDEOTAPED AT LEAST TWICE) ZIPPING AND DIPPING ABOVE AND WITHIN RECENT FORMATIONS.

MINI-PROBES DISPATCHED TO OBSERVE UFO HANDIWORK? RESIDUAL ENERGY FROM WHATEVER "NATURAL FORCE" CREATED THE FORMATIONS? OR JUST A FEW CURVE BALLS PITCHED BY THE COSMIC TRICKSTER?

FINALLY, CAN WE FIND EVIDENCE OF AN EXTRATERRESTRIAL CONNECTION (OR AT LEAST SOME MYSTERIOUS UNIVERSAL PHYSICS) IN THE SIMILAR SPIRALS OF GREAT GALAXIES AND SWIRLED CEREAL?



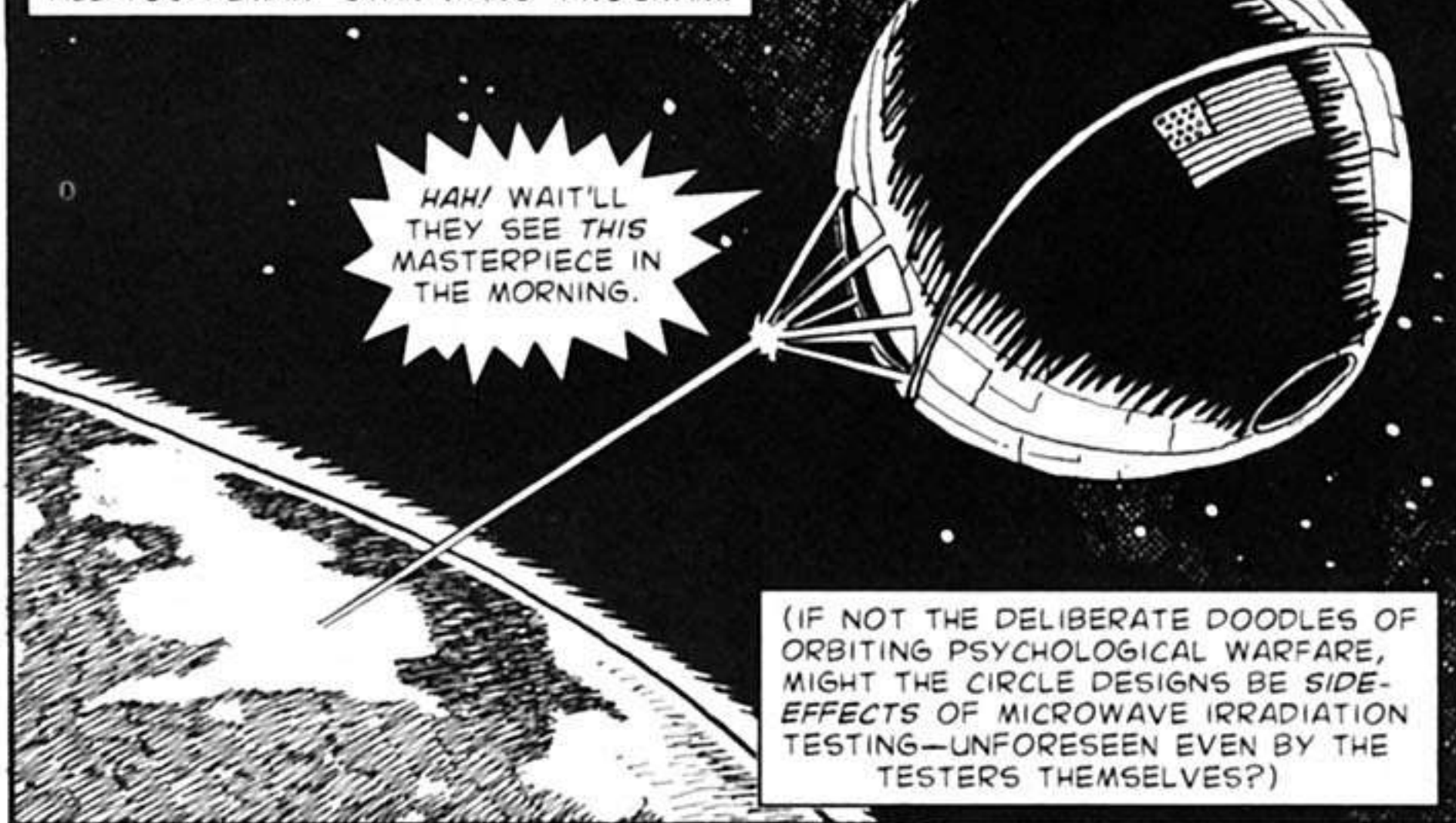
PROBABLY NOT...BUT WHO KNOWS?



AND ALL "PHYSICAL TRACE" EVIDENCE ASIDE, ARE ALIENS TRULY THE LORDS OF THE RINGS AND CIRCLES?

NOT NECESSARILY—IF PROPONENTS OF THE "MICROWAVE THEORY" ARE CORRECT--

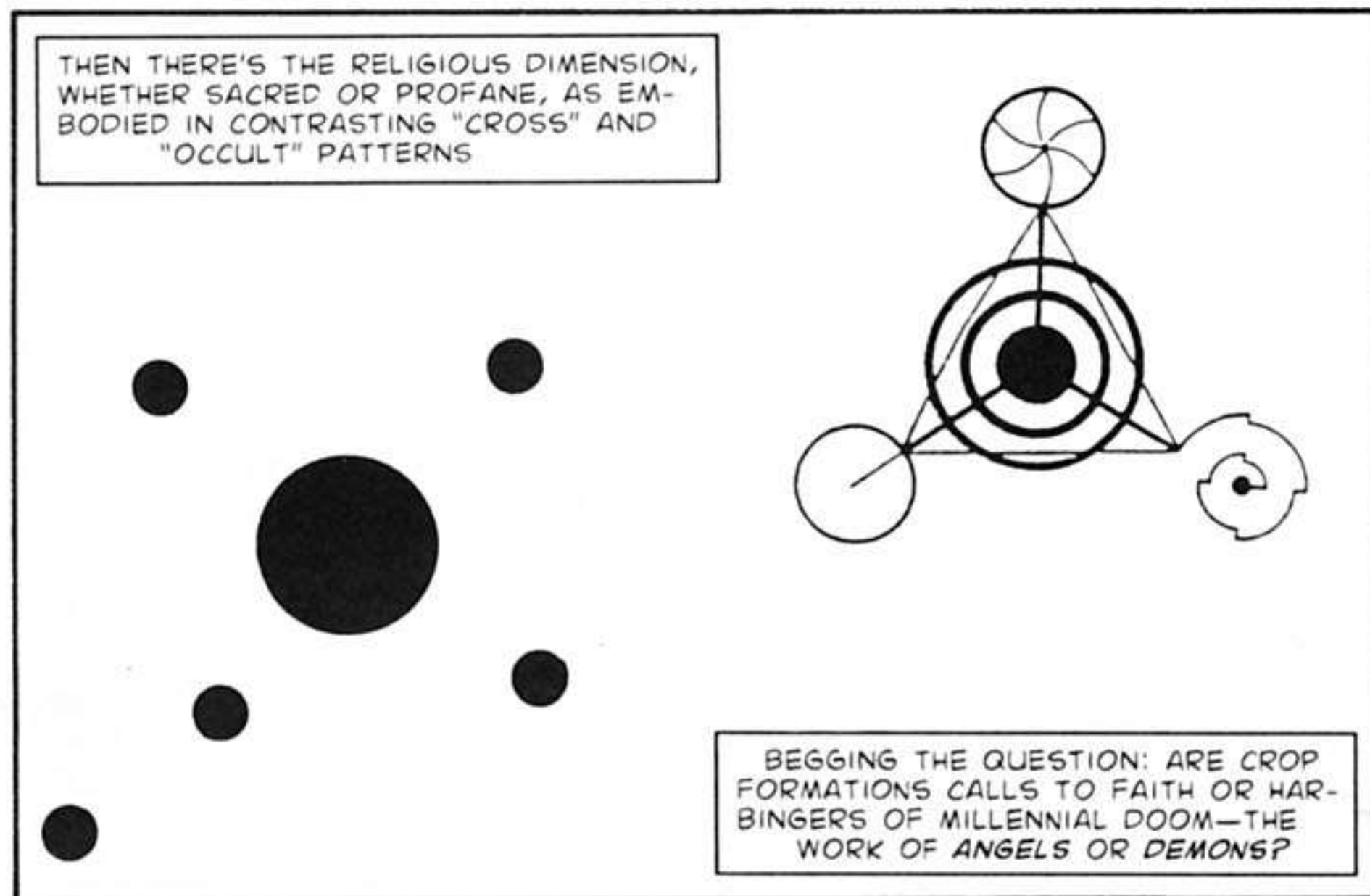
--BECAUSE MICROWAVES WERE A PRIME COMPONENT OF PRESIDENT REAGAN'S ALL-TOO-HUMAN "STAR WARS" PROGRAM.



HAH! WAIT'LL THEY SEE THIS MASTERPIECE IN THE MORNING.

(IF NOT THE DELIBERATE DOODLES OF ORBITING PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE, MIGHT THE CIRCLE DESIGNS BE SIDE-EFFECTS OF MICROWAVE IRRADIATION TESTING—UNFORESEEN EVEN BY THE TESTERS THEMSELVES?)

THEN THERE'S THE RELIGIOUS DIMENSION, WHETHER SACRED OR PROFANE, AS EMBODIED IN CONTRASTING "CROSS" AND "OCCULT" PATTERNS



BEGGING THE QUESTION: ARE CROP FORMATIONS CALLS TO FAITH OR HARBINGERS OF MILLENNIAL DOOM—THE WORK OF ANGELS OR DEMONS?

CLOSER TO DEMONS, GIVEN RESEARCHERS MICHAEL J. STRAINIC AND LINDA MOULTON HOWE'S CONNECTION BETWEEN CIRCLES AND ANIMAL MUTILATIONS.

INCLUDING A DE-CAPITATED DOG NEAR ONE CIRCLE...



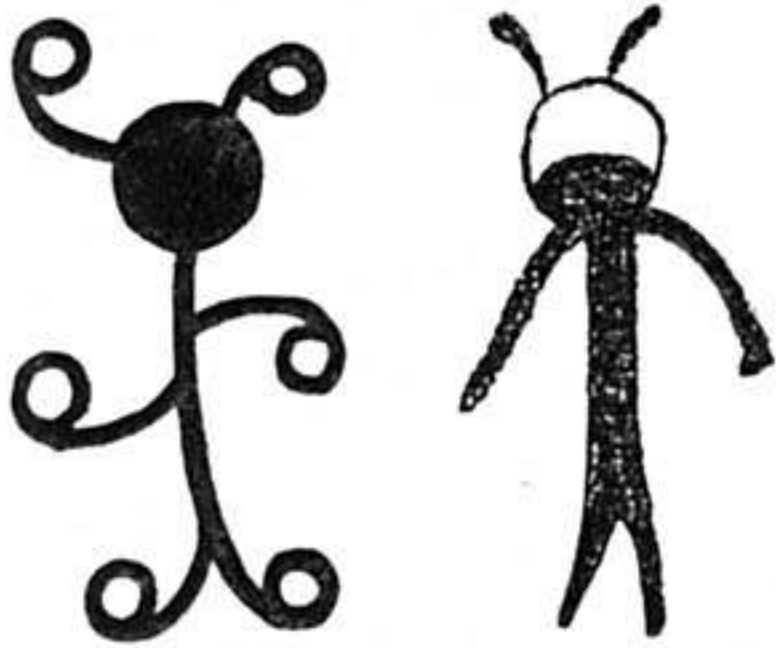
LET'S HOPE THESE CIRCLES ARE HOAXES.



BUT IF SOME AGRIGLYPHS TRULY COMPRISE AN EXTERNAL PHENOMENON, IS IT COSMIC GRAFFITI OR COMPELLING COMMUNICATION?

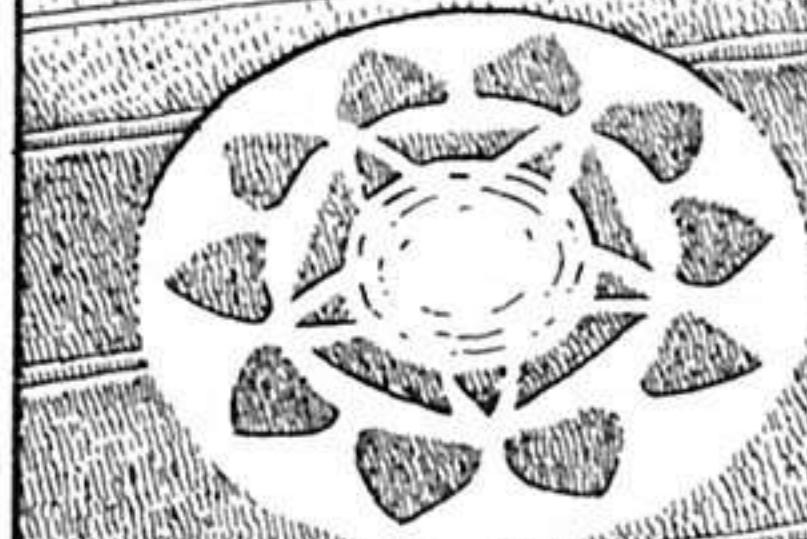
Crop Circle  
"Insectogram"

Anasazi  
Rock Art

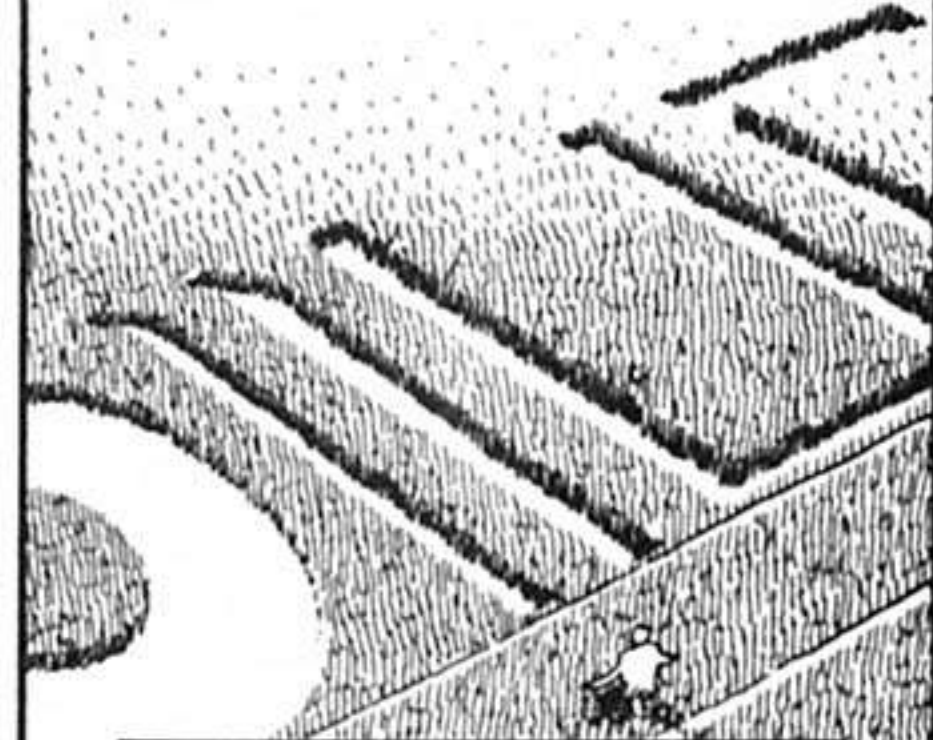


REPEATED MIMICKRY OF ANCIENT SYMBOLS MAY WELL ARGUE FOR THE LATTER.

INDEED, MANY CIRCLES LOOK LIKE NOTHING LESS THAN MYSTIFYING MANDALAS FOR MEDITATION ON HIGHER PLANES OF REALITY.



SHORTLY AFTER ONE CEREALOGIST STAMPED THE MESSAGE "SPEAK TO US" IN A FIELD OF GRAIN, THIS FORMATION (DUBBED "THE INSCRIPTION") APPEARED NEAR MILK HILL.



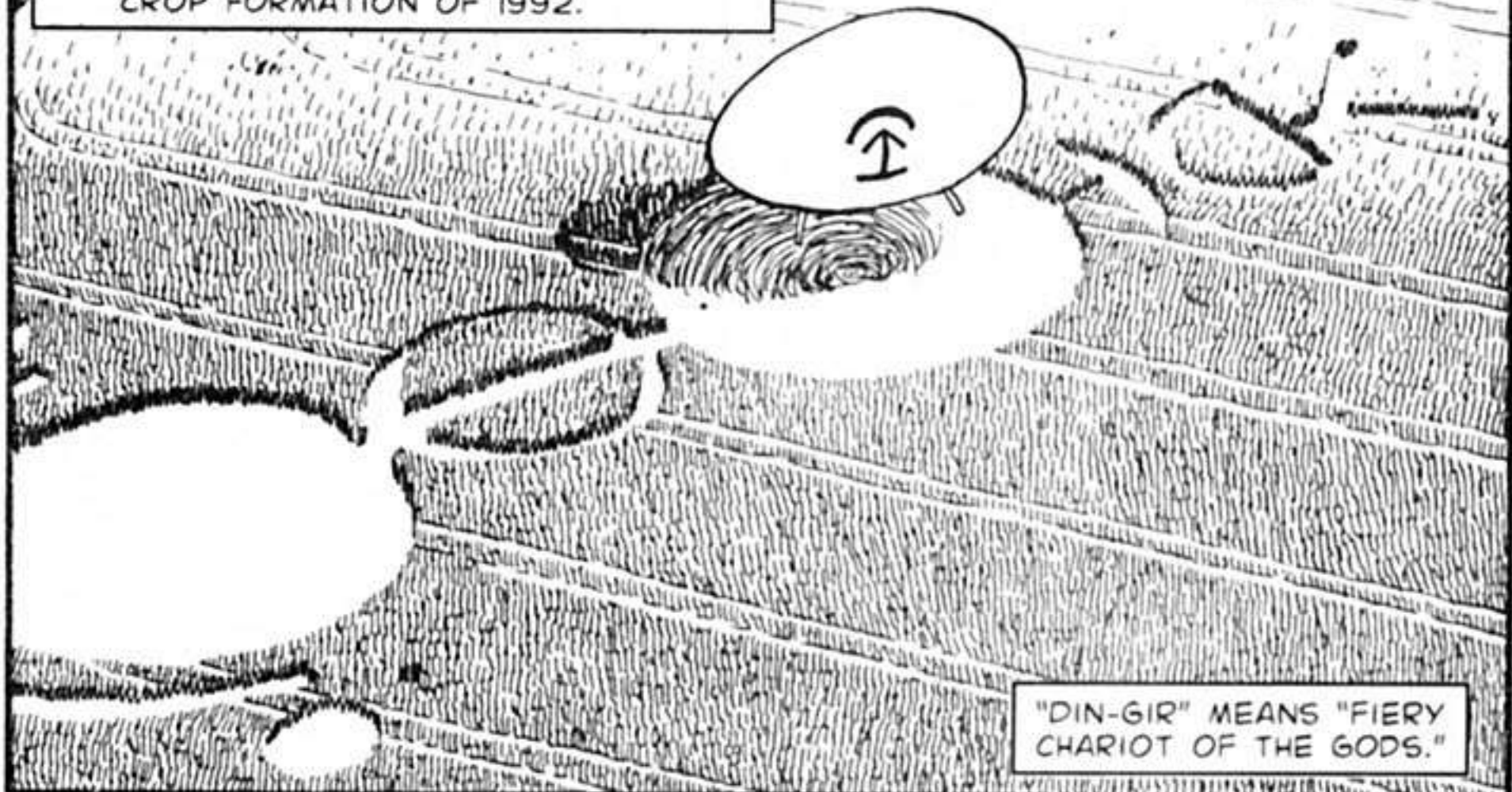
ARCHEOLOGIST MICHAEL GREEN OFFERED AN HEBRIAC TRANSLATION: "THE CREATOR, WISE AND KIND."

THE MOST STUNNING FORMATION OF ALL, HOWEVER, WAS THIS "MANDELBROT SET" NEAR CAMBRIDGE —A HIGHLY COMPLEX MATHEMATICAL CONSTRUCT RELATED TO FRACTALS AND CHAOS THEORY.



MATHEMATICS, OF COURSE, IS THE "UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE."

THE ANCIENT SUMERIAN "DIN-GIR" SYMBOL REPORTED ON THE SIDE OF A NEW MEXICO UFO BY PATROLMAN LONNIE ZAMORA IN 1964 ALSO APPEARED IN AN EAST MEON CROP FORMATION OF 1992.



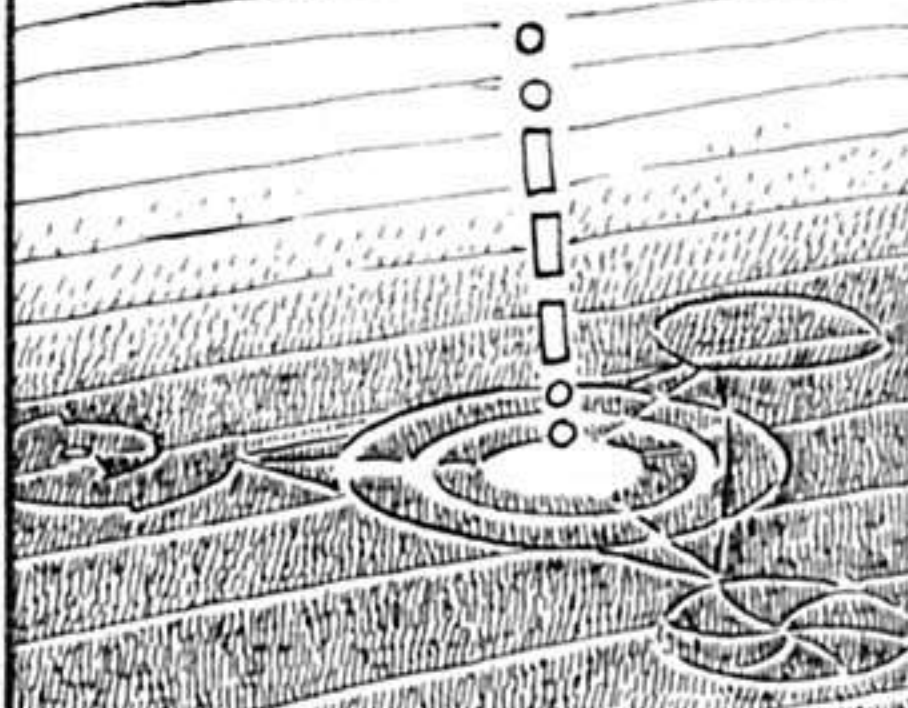
"DIN-GIR" MEANS "FIERY CHARIOT OF THE GODS."

FINALLY, THE "GAIA HYPOTHESIS" SEES THE CIRCLES AS AN INTERNAL PHENOMENON—MESSAGES FROM SENTIENT EARTH HERSELF.



ACCORDING TO COLIN ANDREWS AND OTHERS, THE PLANET IS SICK, PERHAPS DYING, AND HUMANS ARE THE DISEASE.

IF THIS IS TRUE, THEN THE CIRCLES MAY BE SYMPTOMS OF THE DISEASE—BIZARRE "STIGMATA" OR BEAUTIFUL SORES AFFLICTING THE PLANET'S FRAGILE SKIN.



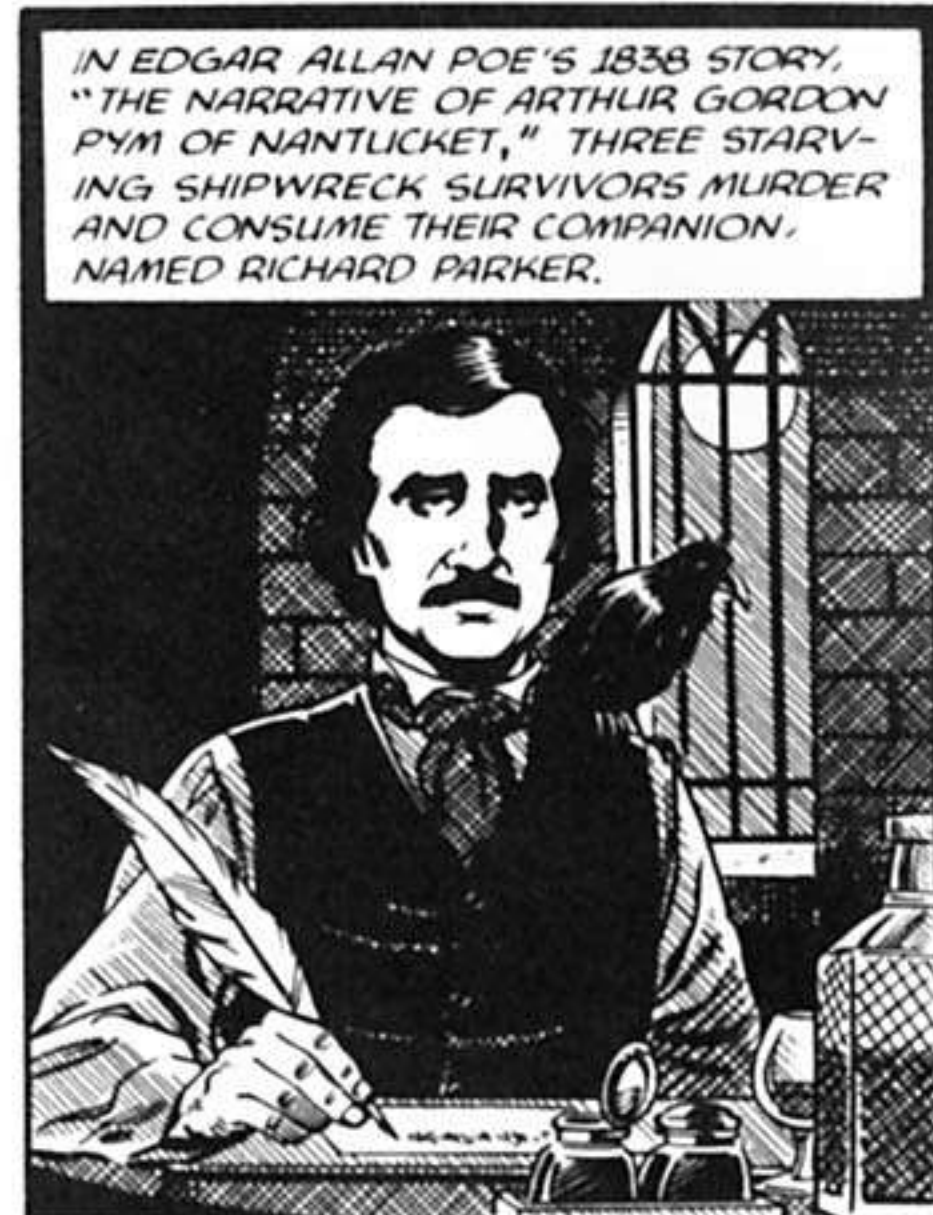
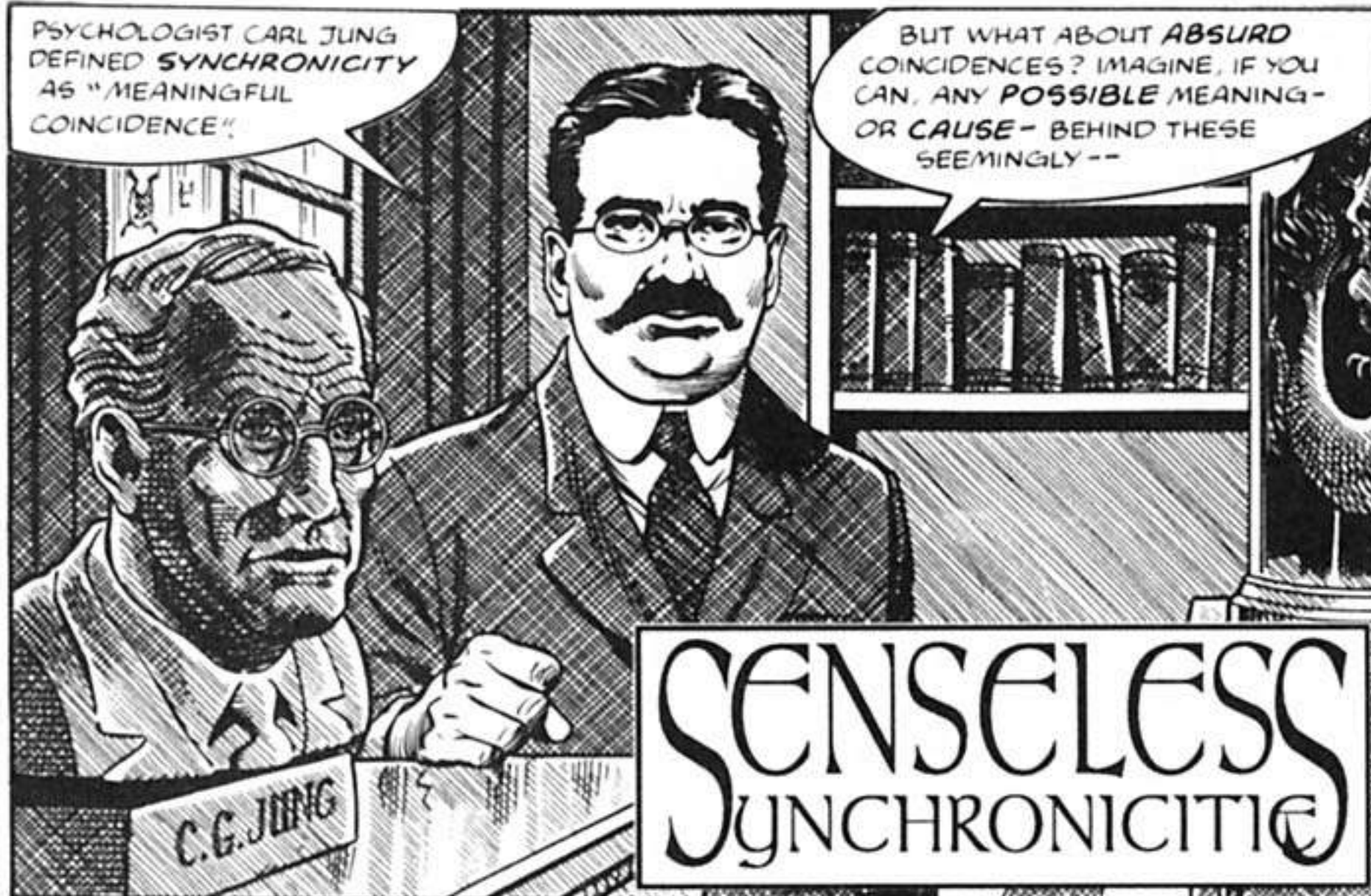
EITHER THAT, OR PAINFULLY POIGNANT CRIES FOR RELIEF.

ONLY ONE THING IS CERTAIN: IF THE CIRCLES ARE SOME FORM OF COMMUNICATION—WHETHER AN INVITATION TO THE WILDEST PARTY IMAGINABLE OR ANGRY RANTS AGAINST POLLUTERS AND VEGETARIANS—



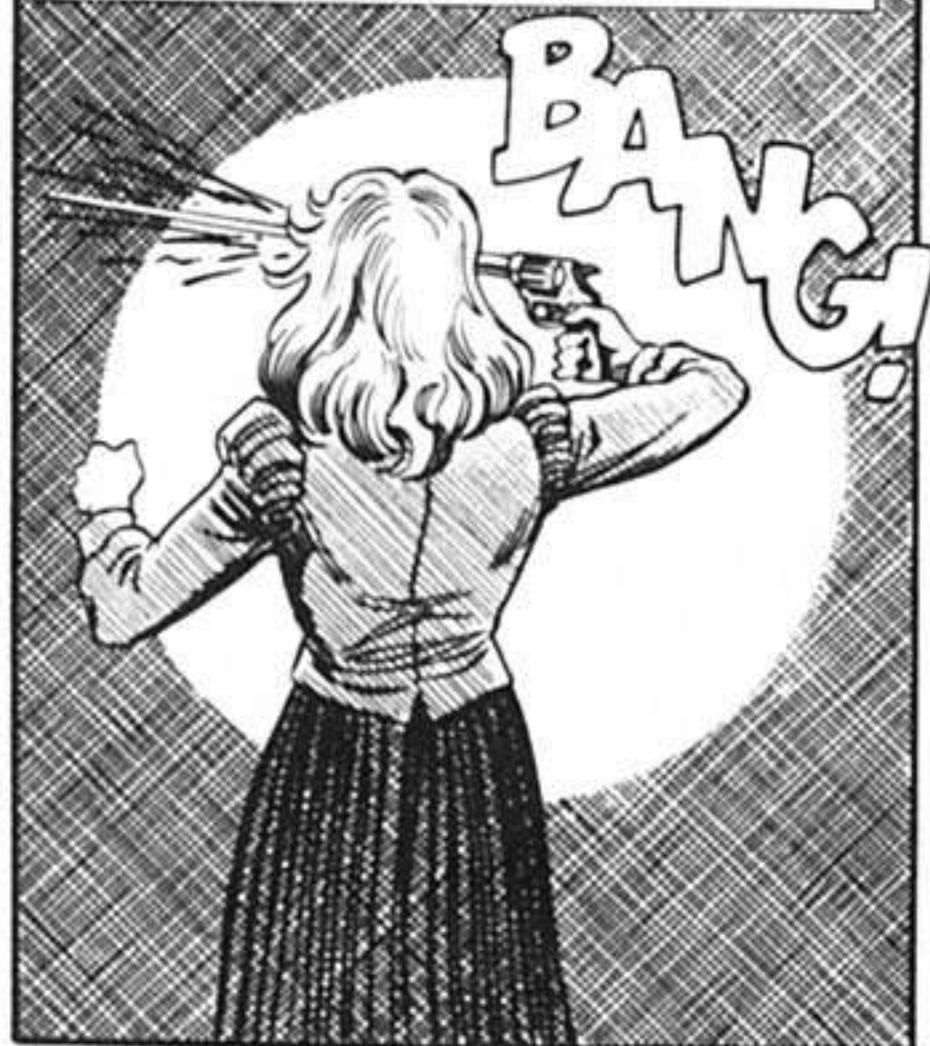
--THUS FAR WE'VE BEEN UNABLE TO HARVEST THE MESSAGE.







JILTED BY HER LOVER, HENRY ZIEGLAND, A TEXAS WOMAN KILLED HERSELF IN 1883.



SEEKING REVENGE, HER BROTHER WENT AFTER ZIEGLAND--



-- AND THEN TOOK HIS OWN LIFE --



-- UNAWARE THAT HIS FIRST BULLET HAD MISSED ZIEGLAND AND EMBEDDED IN A TREE.

THIRTY YEARS LATER, IN UNLUCKY 1913, HENRY ZIEGLAND DECIDED TO FELL THE TREE WITH DYNAMITE--



-- WHEREUPON THE LONG-LOST BULLET, PROPELLED BY THE EXPLOSION, FINALLY FOUND ITS MARK ON THE SECOND TRY--



-- KILLING ZIEGLAND "INSTANTLY."

A FISHMONGER IN CAMBRIDGE, ENGLAND TUGGED A STILL-LEGIBLE BOOK (BOUND IN SAILCLOTH) FROM THE BELLY OF A FISH CAUGHT IN 1626.



IT PROVED TO BE A THEOLOGICAL TREATISE WRITTEN BY JOHN FRITH A HUNDRED YEARS EARLIER.

CRITICS!



FRITH'S WRITINGS HAD CAUSED HIM TO BE BURNED AT THE STAKE AS A HERETIC IN 1533.

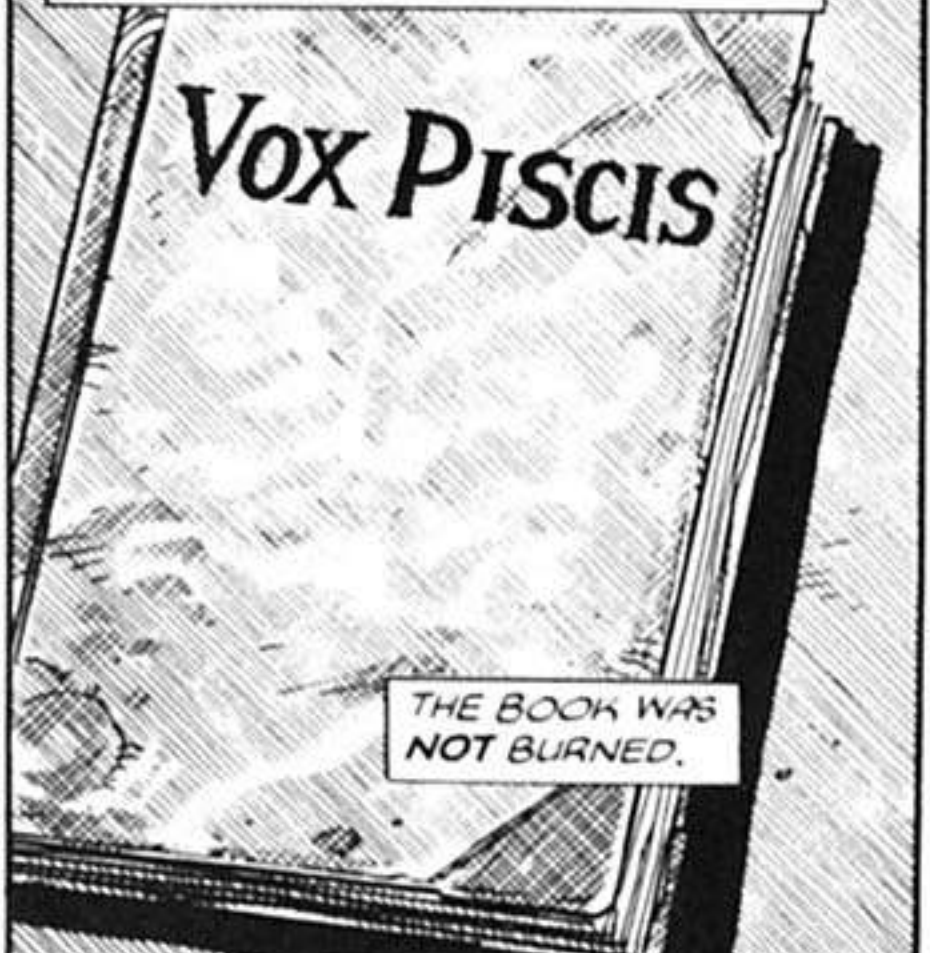
THE MANUSCRIPT HAD BEEN WRITTEN WHILE FRITH WAS IMPRISONED AT OXFORD - IN A CELLAR USED TO STORE FISH--



PEE-YEW!

-- WHERE OTHER PRISONERS HAD ACTUALLY DIED FROM THE STENCH.

TO HONOR THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF ITS COMPOSITION AND DELIVERANCE, THE BOOK WAS REPRINTED IN 1627 AS VOX PISCIS - LITERALLY, "VOICE OF THE FISH."



THE BOOK WAS NOT BURNED.





BEFORE IMMERSING HIMSELF IN PARANORMAL RESEARCH, 19TH CENTURY FRENCH ASTRONOMER CAMILLE FLAMMARION WAS WRITING HIS MAJOR WORK, *L'ATMOSPHERE*--

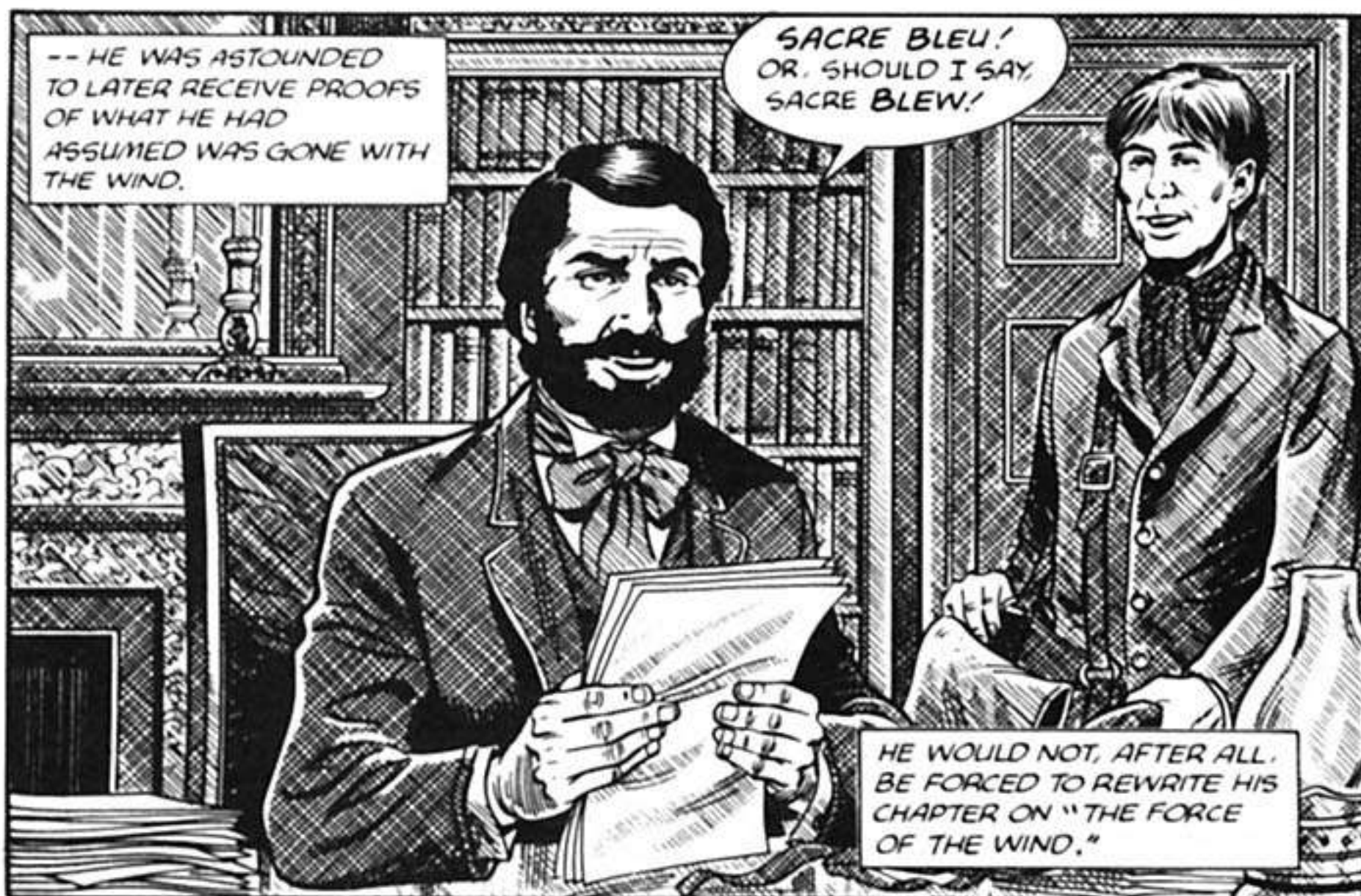
-- WHEN A GALE OF WIND ABRUPTLY BLEW HIS WINDOW OPEN AND SUCKED AWAY THE PAGES HE HAD JUST COMPLETED.



THE WIND DEPOSITED THE PAGES IN THE STREET NEAR A PASSING MESSENGER EMPLOYED BY FLAMMARION'S PUBLISHER.

IS CAMILLE SAVING ME A TRUDGE UP HIS STAIRS?

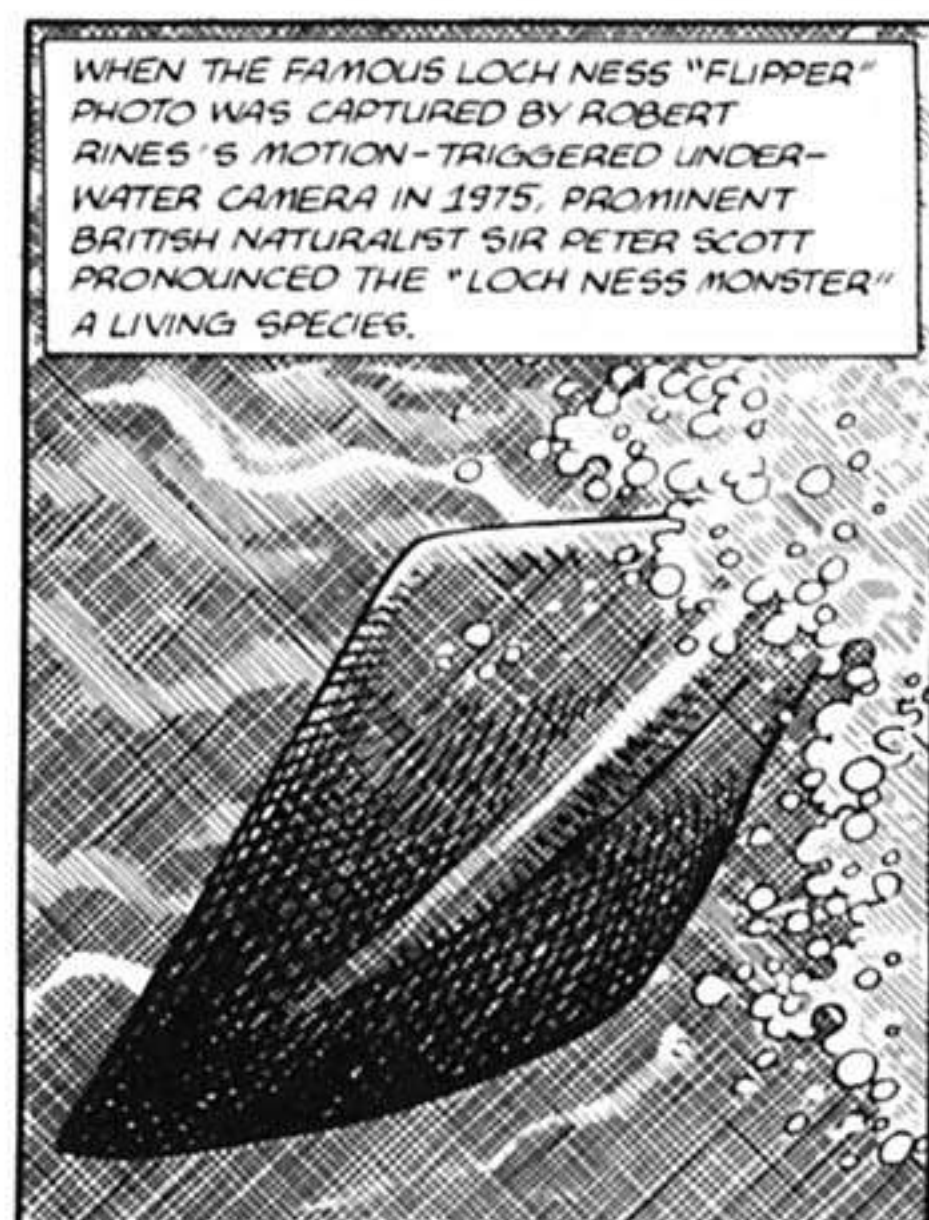
BUT SINCE THIS HAPPENED BEYOND THE ASTRONOMER'S SIGHT--



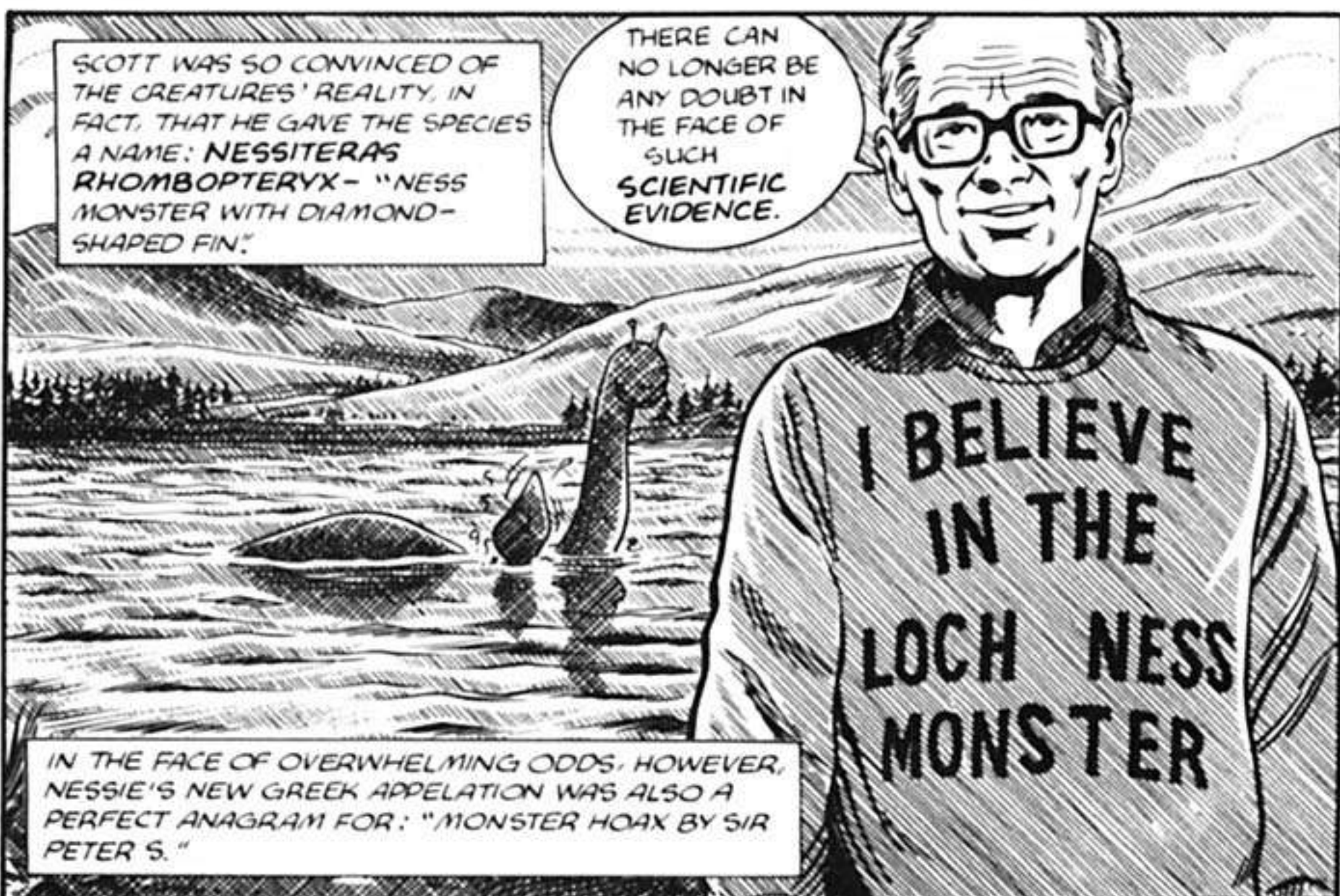
-- HE WAS ASTOUNDED TO LATER RECEIVE PROOFS OF WHAT HE HAD ASSUMED WAS GONE WITH THE WIND.

SACRE BLEU! OR, SHOULD I SAY, SACRE BLEW!

HE WOULD NOT, AFTER ALL, BE FORCED TO REWRITE HIS CHAPTER ON "THE FORCE OF THE WIND."



WHEN THE FAMOUS LOCH NESS "FLIPPER" PHOTO WAS CAPTURED BY ROBERT RINES'S MOTION-TRIGGERED UNDER-WATER CAMERA IN 1975, PROMINENT BRITISH NATURALIST SIR PETER SCOTT PRONOUNCED THE "LOCH NESS MONSTER" A LIVING SPECIES.

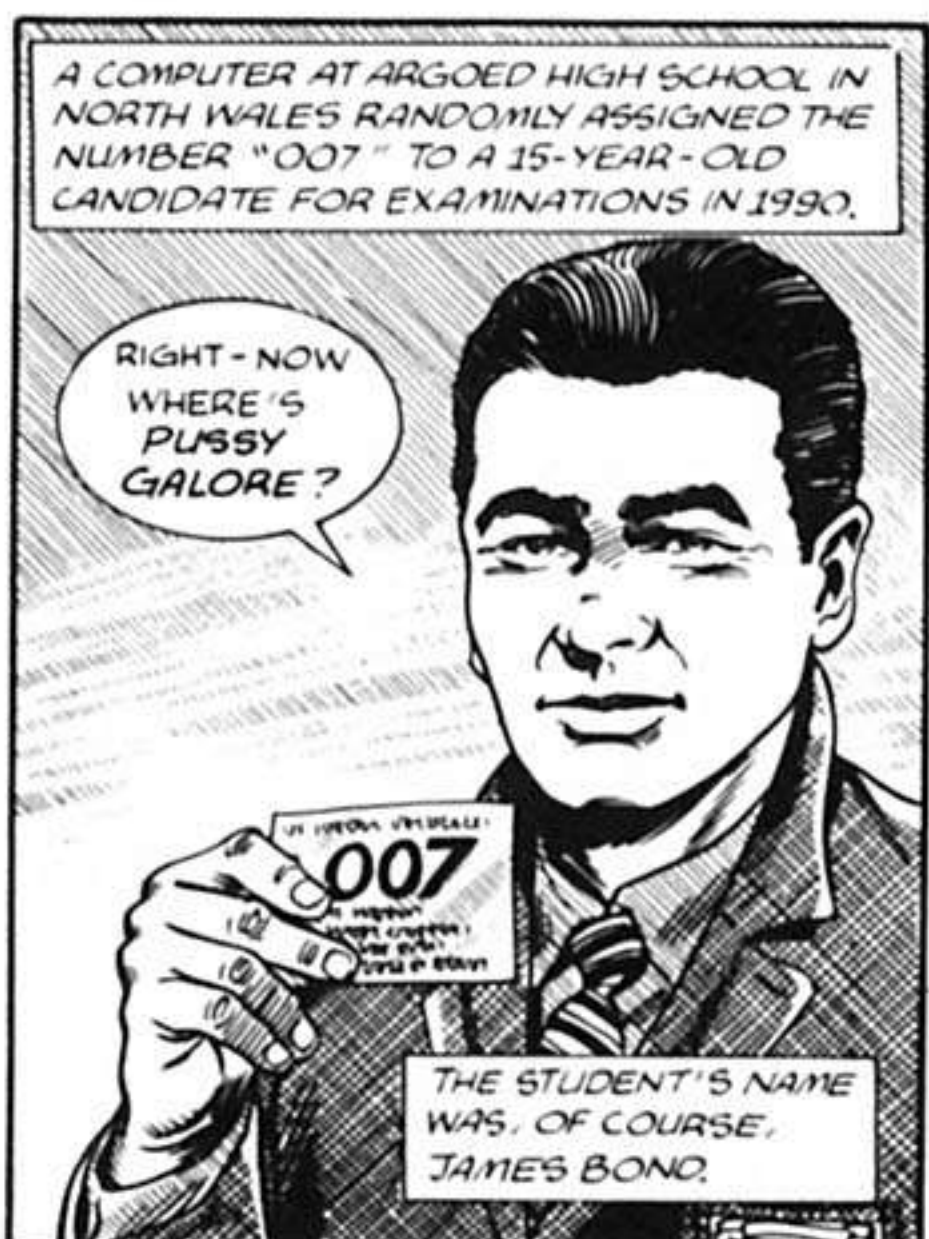


SCOTT WAS SO CONVINCED OF THE CREATURES' REALITY, IN FACT, THAT HE GAVE THE SPECIES A NAME: *NESSITERAS RHOMBOPTERYX* - "NESS MONSTER WITH DIAMOND-SHAPED FIN."

THERE CAN NO LONGER BE ANY DOUBT IN THE FACE OF SUCH SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE.

I BELIEVE IN THE LOCH NESS MONSTER

IN THE FACE OF OVERWHELMING ODDS, HOWEVER, NESSIE'S NEW GREEK APPELLATION WAS ALSO A PERFECT ANAGRAM FOR: "MONSTER HOAX BY SIR PETER S."



A COMPUTER AT ARGOED HIGH SCHOOL IN NORTH WALES RANDOMLY ASSIGNED THE NUMBER "007" TO A 15-YEAR-OLD CANDIDATE FOR EXAMINATIONS IN 1990.

RIGHT - NOW WHERE'S PUSSY GALORE?

THE STUDENT'S NAME WAS, OF COURSE, JAMES BOND.



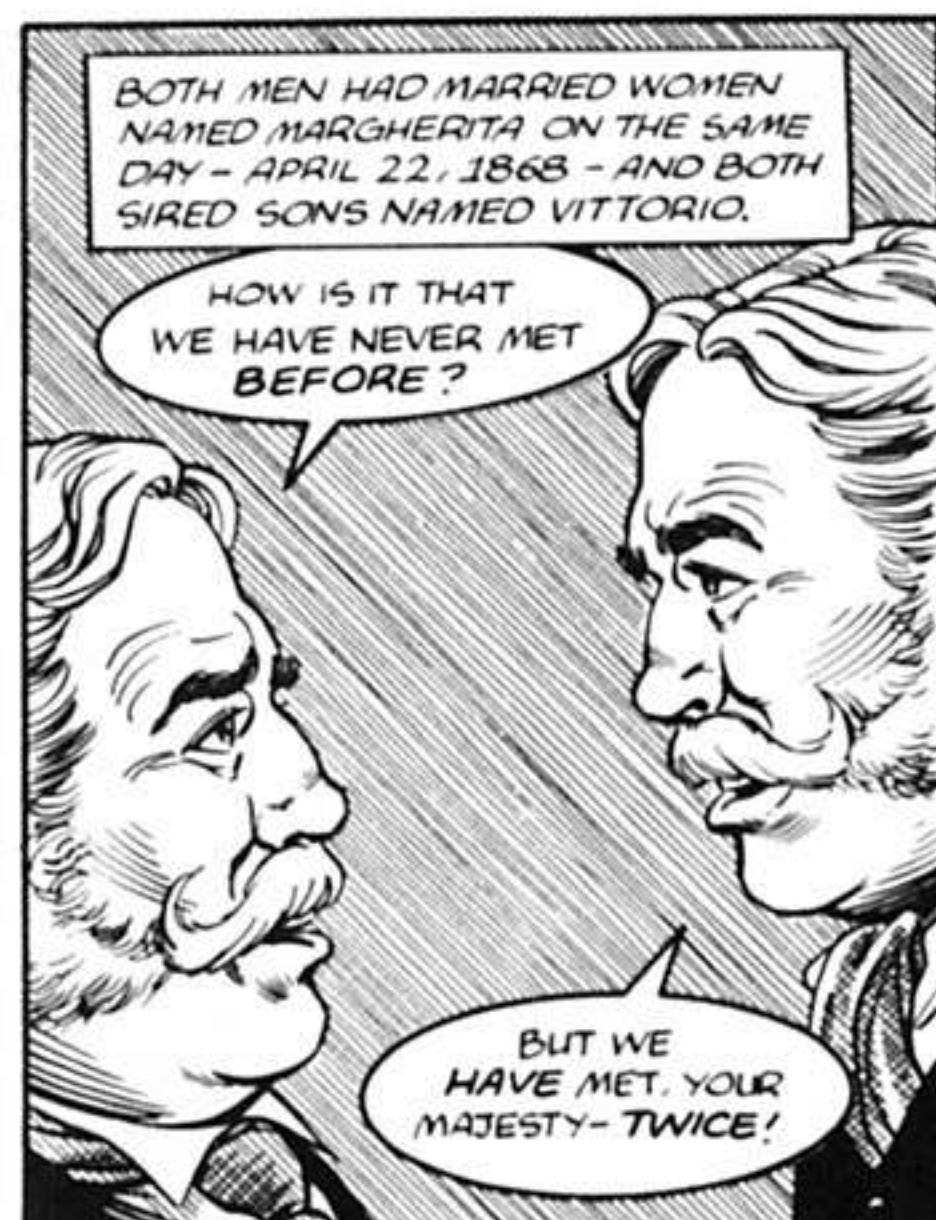


STOPPING BY CHANCE AT A RESTAURANT OUTSIDE MILAN ON JULY 28, 1900, ITALY'S KING UMBERTO I WAS ASTONISHED TO ENCOUNTER HIS DEAD-RINGER DOUBLE---

-- THE RESTAURANT'S OWNER, WHO WAS ALSO NAMED UMBERTO AND WHO HAD BEEN BORN IN THE SAME TOWN WITH THE SAME BIRTHDAY.

FOURTEENTH OF MARCH, 1844.

I TOO, YOUR MAJESTY!



BOTH MEN HAD MARRIED WOMEN NAMED MARGHERITA ON THE SAME DAY - APRIL 22, 1868 - AND BOTH Sired SONS NAMED VITTORIO.

HOW IS IT THAT WE HAVE NEVER MET BEFORE?

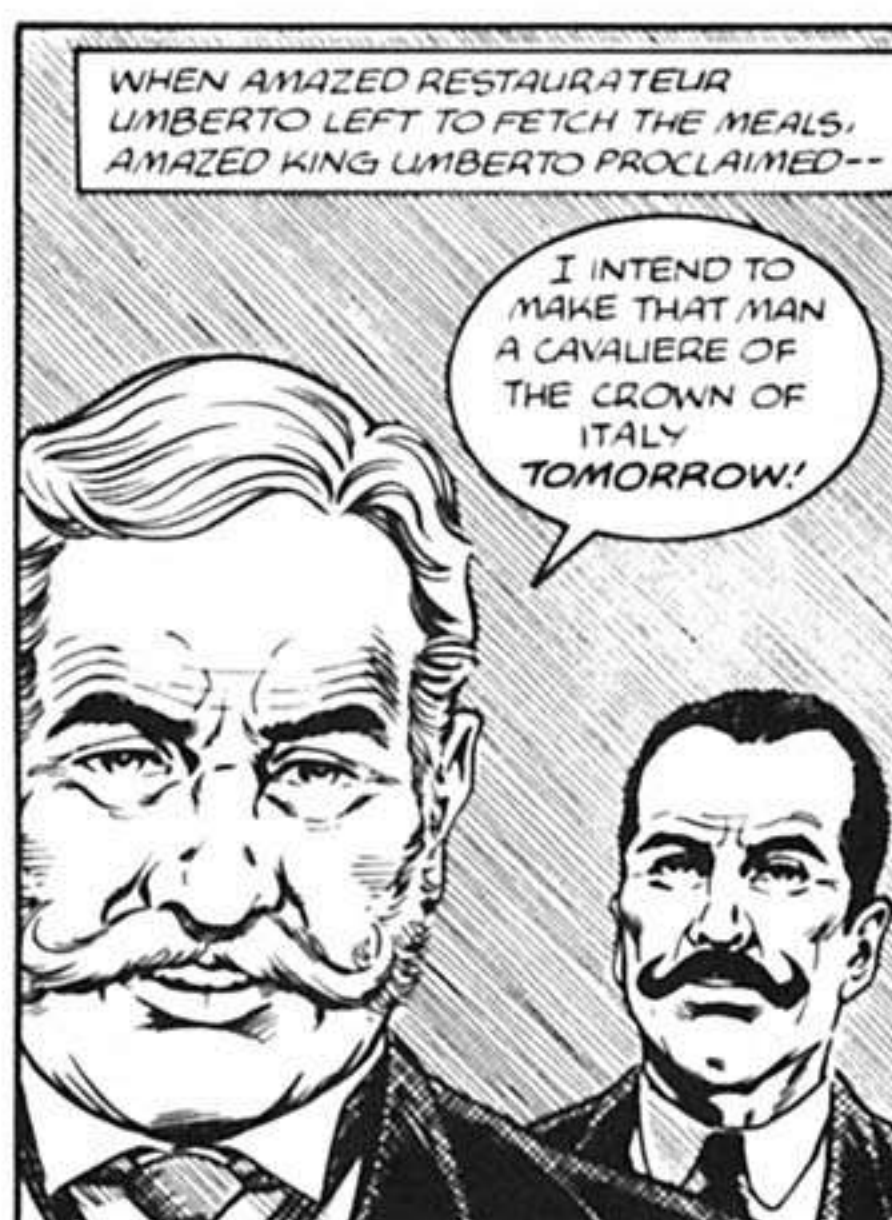
BUT WE HAVE MET, YOUR MAJESTY - TWICE!



BOTH HAD TWICE BEEN DECORATED FOR BRAVERY, AND BOTH TIMES AT THE SAME CEREMONIES - ONCE IN 1866 AND AGAIN IN 1870.

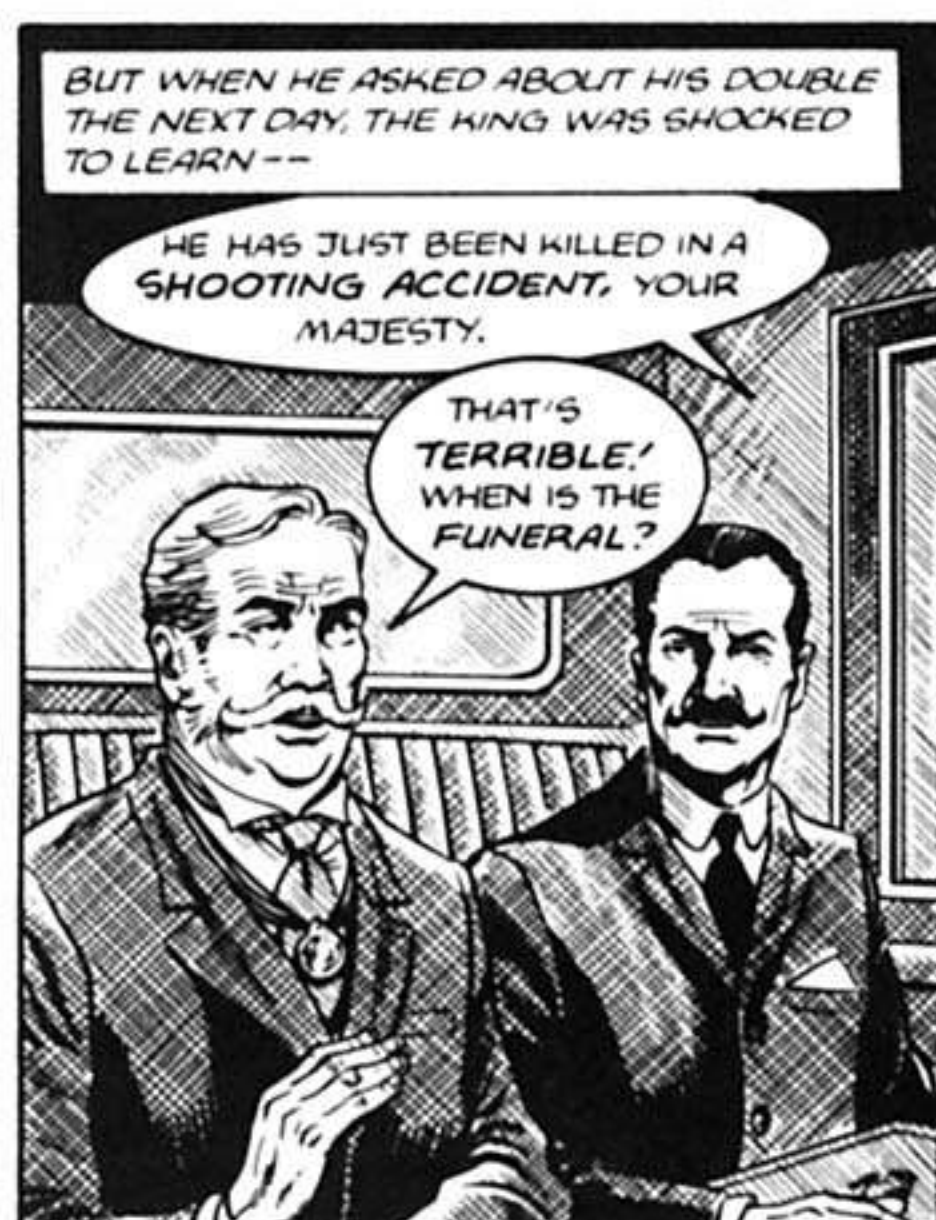
AND THE DAY OF MY CORONATION--

-- WAS THE SAME DAY I OPENED THIS RESTAURANT!



WHEN AMAZED RESTAURATEUR UMBERTO LEFT TO FETCH THE MEALS, AMAZED KING UMBERTO PROCLAIMED--

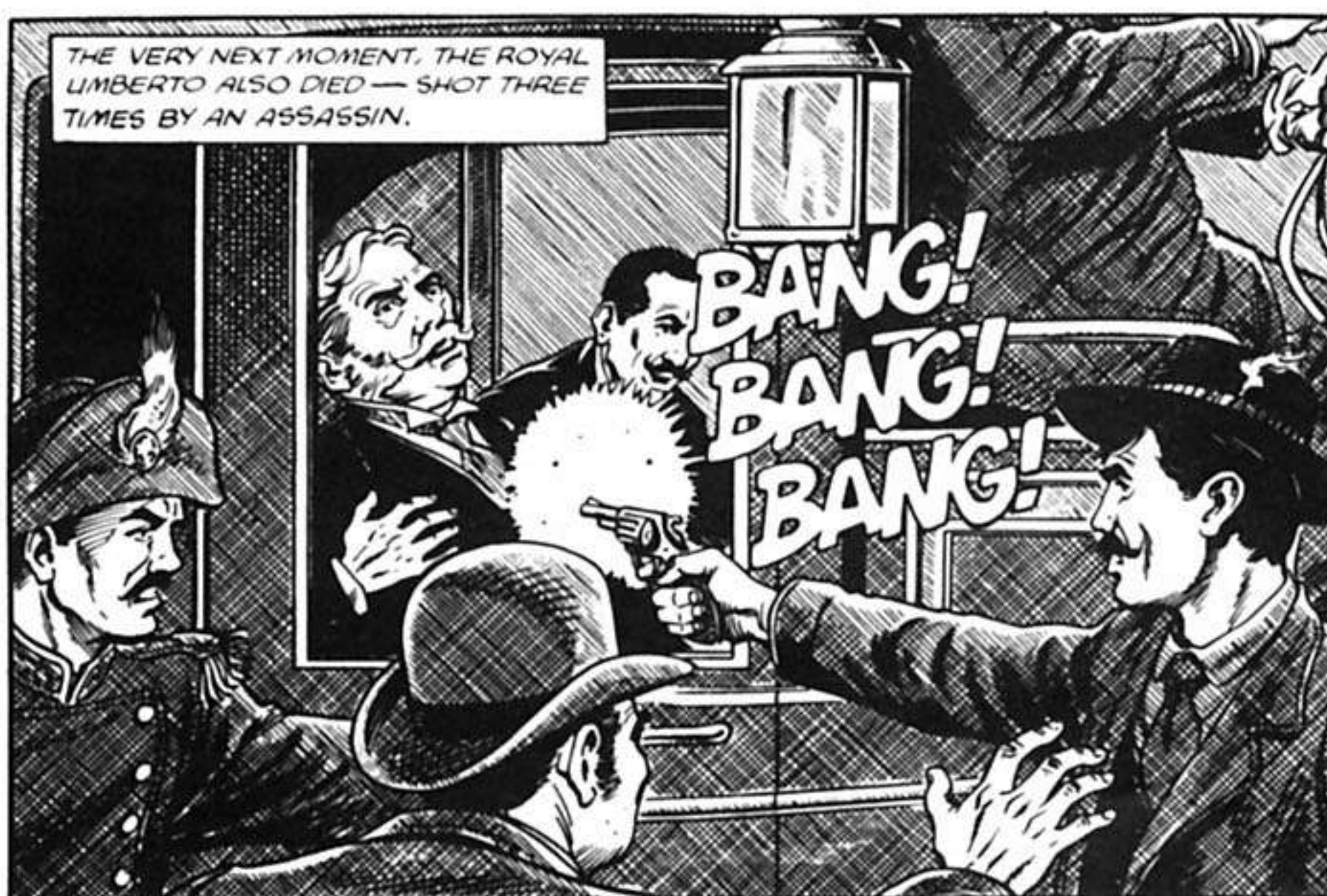
I INTEND TO MAKE THAT MAN A CAVALIERE OF THE CROWN OF ITALY TOMORROW!



BUT WHEN HE ASKED ABOUT HIS DOUBLE THE NEXT DAY, THE KING WAS SHOCKED TO LEARN--

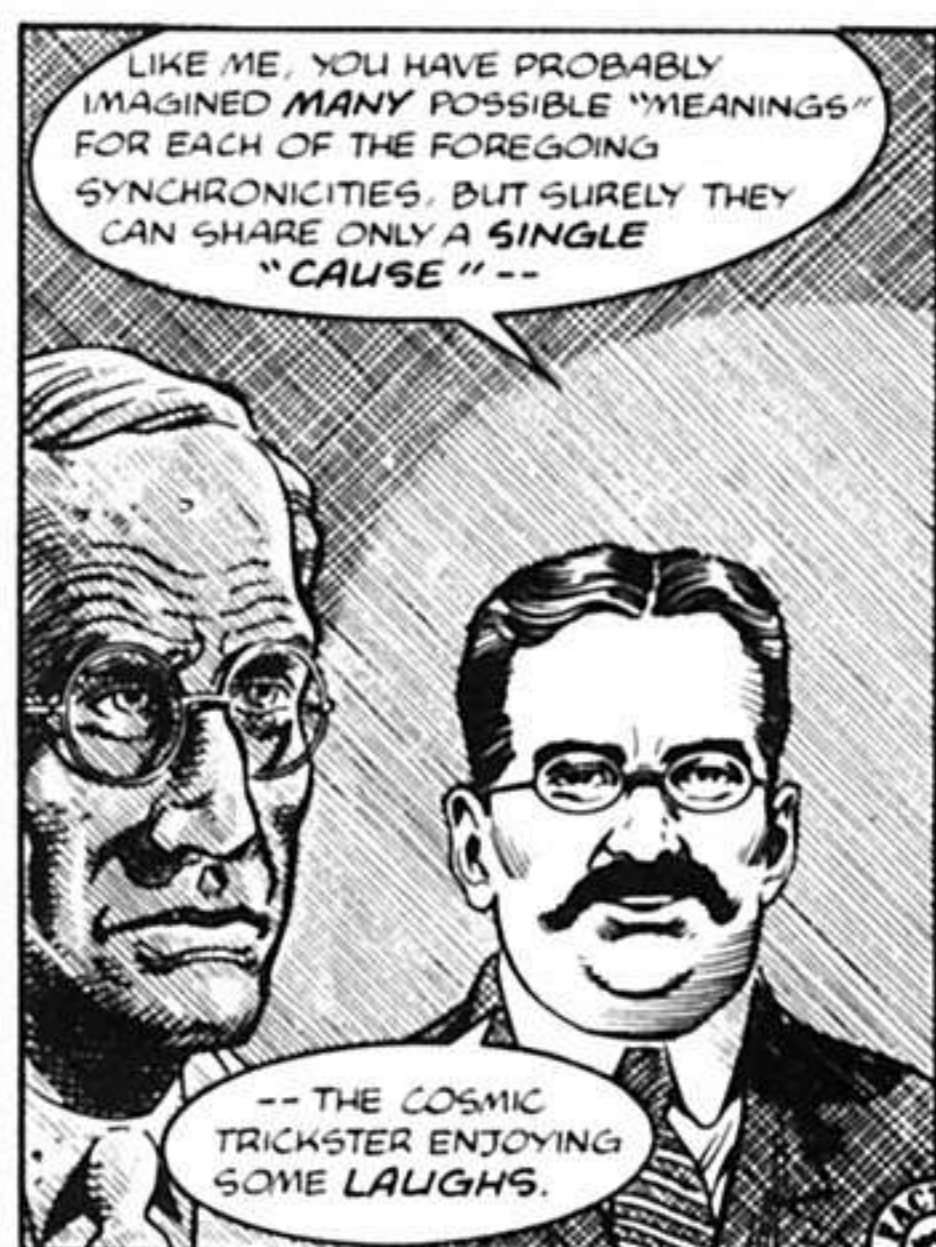
HE HAS JUST BEEN KILLED IN A SHOOTING ACCIDENT, YOUR MAJESTY.

THAT'S TERRIBLE! WHEN IS THE FUNERAL?



THE VERY NEXT MOMENT, THE ROYAL UMBERTO ALSO DIED -- SHOT THREE TIMES BY AN ASSASSIN.

BANG!  
BANG!  
BANG!



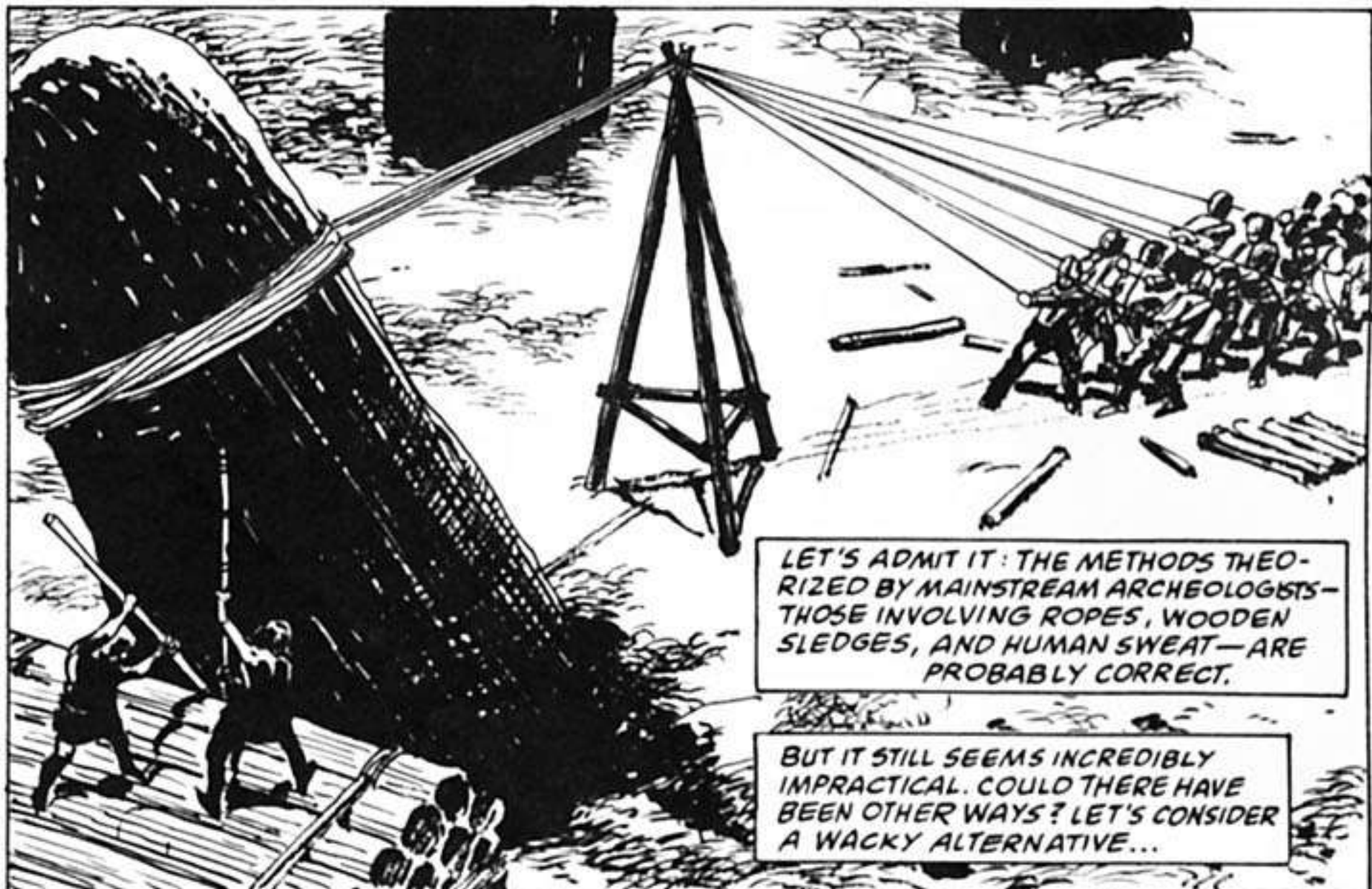
LIKE ME, YOU HAVE PROBABLY IMAGINED MANY POSSIBLE "MEANINGS" FOR EACH OF THE FOREGOING SYNCHRONICITIES, BUT SURELY THEY CAN SHARE ONLY A SINGLE "CAUSE" --

-- THE COSMIC TRICKSTER ENJOYING SOME LAUGHS.



# MOVING MEGALITHS

ANCIENT MEGALITHIC STRUCTURES—DEMANDING THE LONG-DISTANCE TRANSPORT OF MANY-TON STONES—BEG TWO QUESTIONS: WHY WERE THEY BUILT? AND HOW WAS THIS DONE WITH PRIMITIVE TECHNOLOGY?



LET'S ADMIT IT: THE METHODS THEORIZED BY MAINSTREAM ARCHEOLOGISTS—THOSE INVOLVING ROPES, WOODEN SLEDGES, AND HUMAN SWEAT—ARE PROBABLY CORRECT.

BUT IT STILL SEEMS INCREDIBLY IMPRACTICAL. COULD THERE HAVE BEEN OTHER WAYS? LET'S CONSIDER A WACKY ALTERNATIVE...

MEGALITHIC CIRCLES, HENGES, AND STANDING STONES WERE ALWAYS ERECTED ON "SACRED SITES"—AND EARLY CHRISTIAN CHURCHES WERE ALMOST ALWAYS BUILT ATOP MEGALITHIC RUINS AT THESE SAME SITES.



BUT WHY? WHAT WAS SO SPECIAL ABOUT THESE SPECIFIC PLACES?

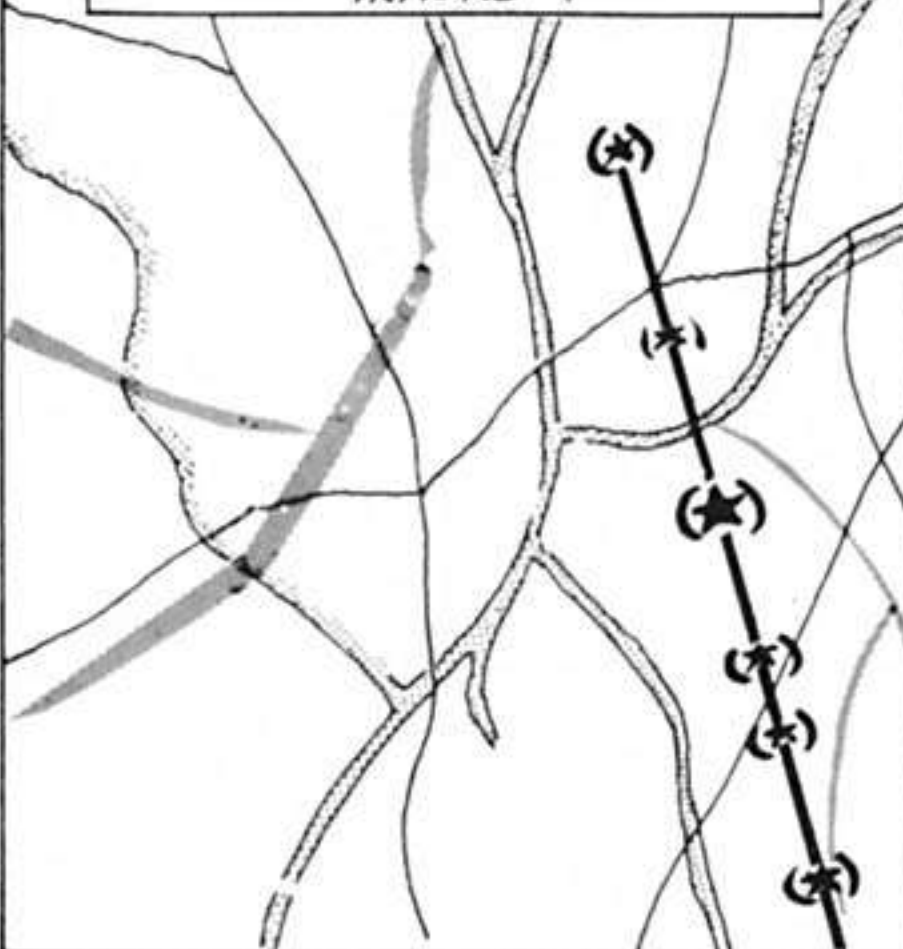
DOWSERS AND PSYCHIC-SENSITIVES CLAIM THEY CAN DETECT "ENERGY" AT THESE SITES.



YIKES! THE ROD'S JERKING IN MY HAND!

OOOH! FEEL THE VIBES!

MAPS SHOW THAT SACRED SITES CAN BE LINKED BY THE DOZENS IN STRAIGHT LINES ACROSS HUNDREDS OF MILES—BUT WHY ARE THEY LOCATED ON THESE INVISIBLE "TRACKS"?



RESEARCHERS CLAIM THAT EARTH'S ELECTROMAGNETIC ENERGY TRAVELS IN "LEY LINES" STRETCHING BETWEEN "NODES" WHERE THE ENERGY IS MORE STRONGLY MANIFESTED.



THESE "ENERGY NODES," THEN, WERE SOMEHOW DETECTED BY THE MEGALITH BUILDERS AND BECAME THE PLANET'S "SACRED SITES."



I DON'T CARE HOW FAR THE QUARRY IS! STONEHENGE GOES HERE!

GRRR!



BUT WHY PIERCE THE GROUND AT THESE "LEY NODES" WITH STONES OF ENORMOUS SIZE?



(HERE COMES THE WACKY PART...)

LET'S SAY THE EARTH'S "LEY NODES" ARE EQUIVALENT TO THE HUMAN BODY'S SEVEN MAJOR AND MANY MORE MINOR CHAKRAS, OR "ENERGY CENTERS."



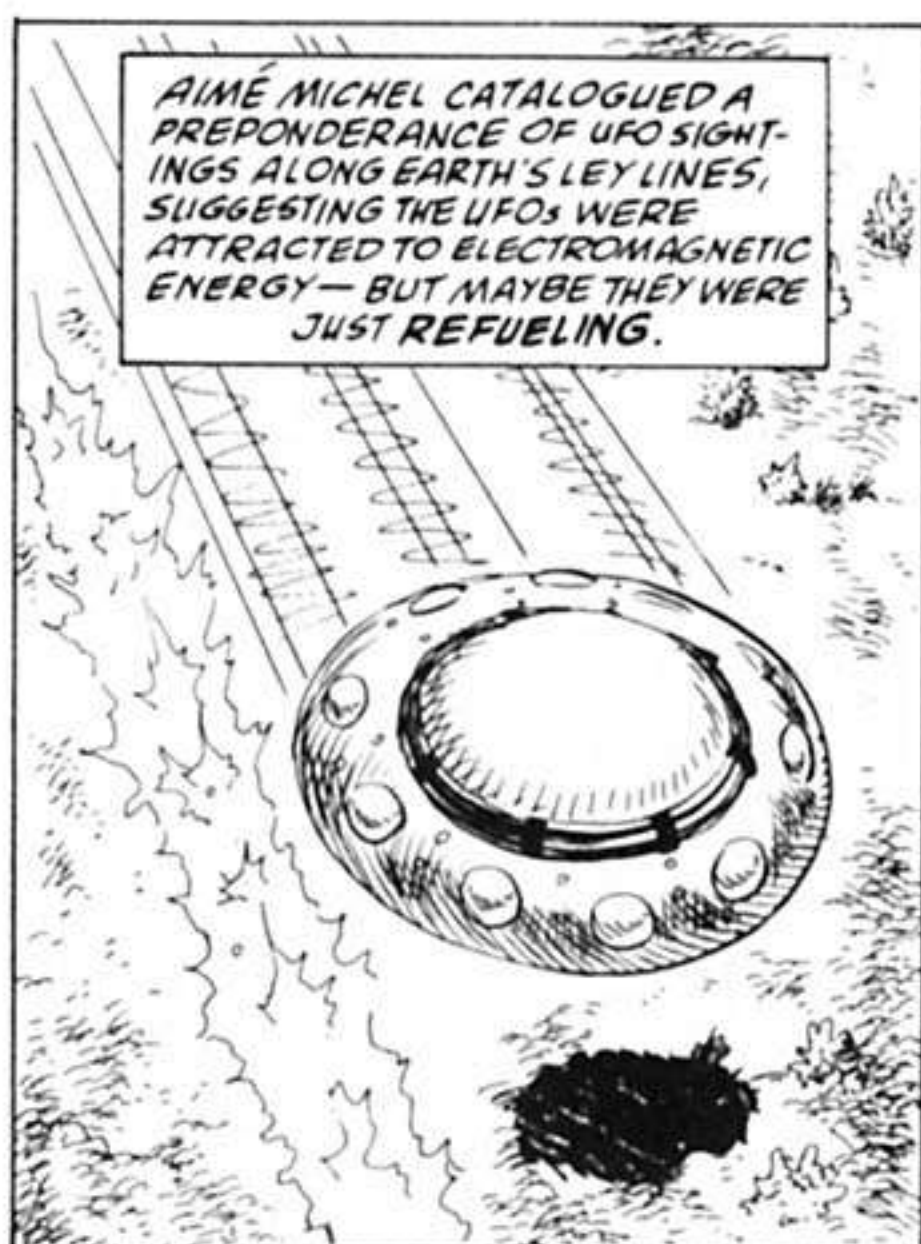
AND IF THE BODY'S ENERGY FLOW IS ENHANCED BY THE INSERTION OF ACUPUNCTURE NEEDLES AT CHAKRA POINTS, MAYBE LEY LINES FLOW BETTER WHEN THE EARTH'S SKIN IS "PUNCTURED" AT NODE POINTS BY MEGALITHIC STONES.



JUST AS THE HUMAN BODY IS KEPT HEALTHY AND ENERGIZED BY THE PROPER FLOW BETWEEN CHAKRA POINTS, SO TOO MIGHT THE EARTH BE "TUNED" BY THE PROPER FLOW OF ITS "HARMONIC" ENERGY GRID.



AIME MICHEL CATALOGUED A PREPONDERANCE OF UFO SIGHTINGS ALONG EARTH'S LEY LINES, SUGGESTING THE UFOs WERE ATTRACTED TO ELECTROMAGNETIC ENERGY—BUT MAYBE THEY WERE JUST REFUELING.



AND FINALLY, MAYBE THE MEGALITH-BUILDERS ALSO KNEW HOW TO EXPLOIT THIS LEY LINE EM ENERGY—IN THE TRANSPORT OF THEIR STONE "NEEDLES" FROM ONE NODE POINT TO ANOTHER AND ANOTHER ALL AROUND THE WORLD.

NO ROPES, NO WOODEN SLEDGES, NO HUMAN SWEAT.

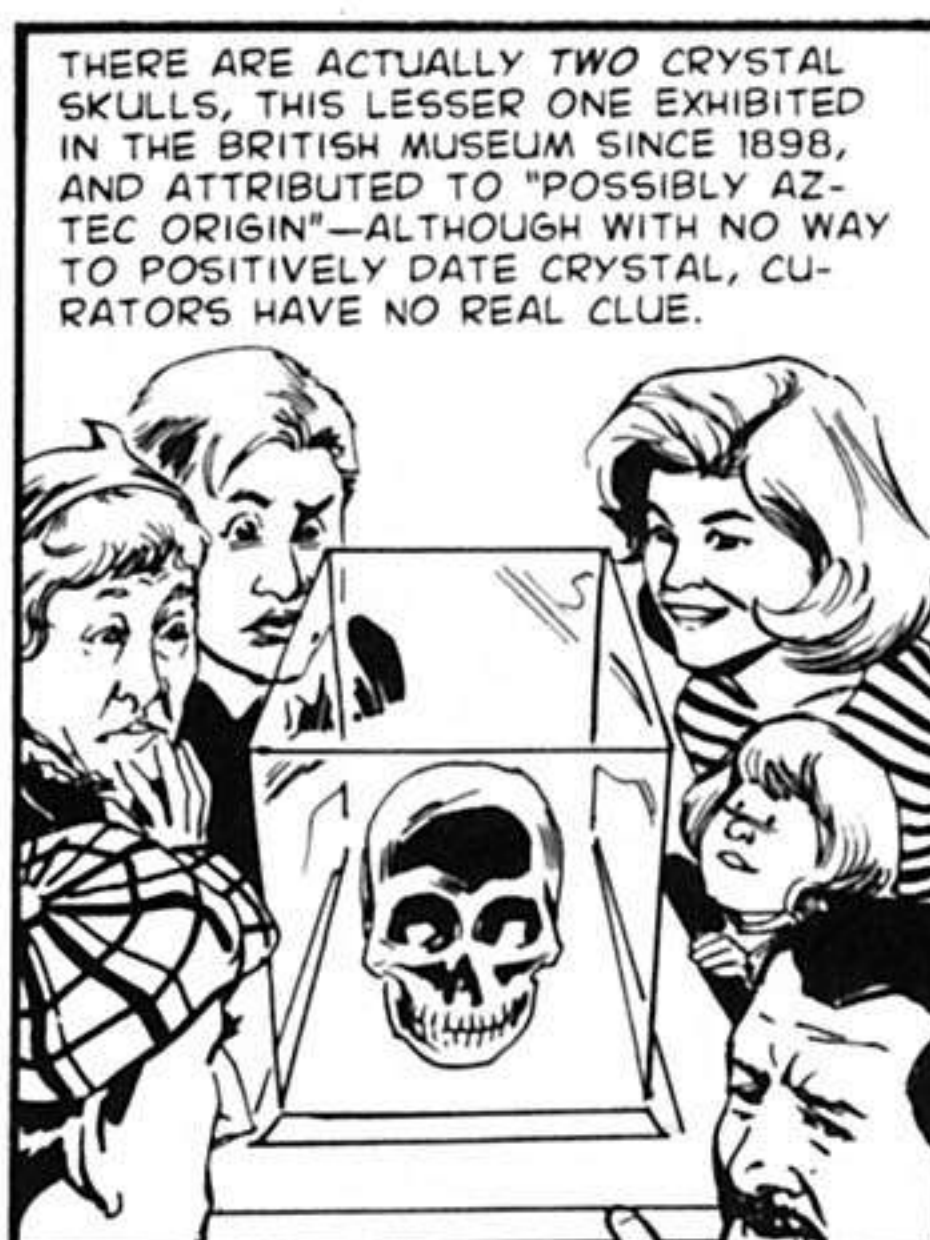
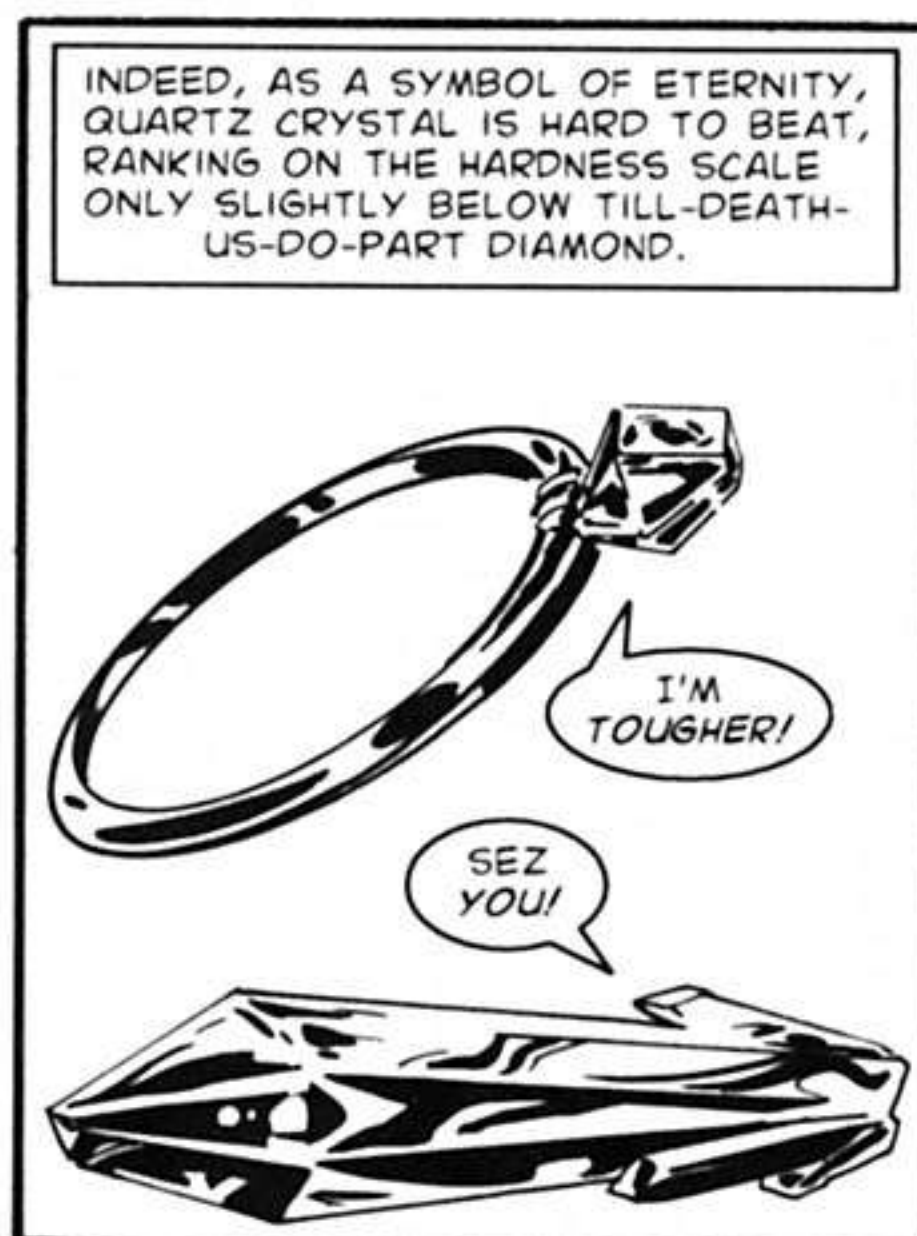
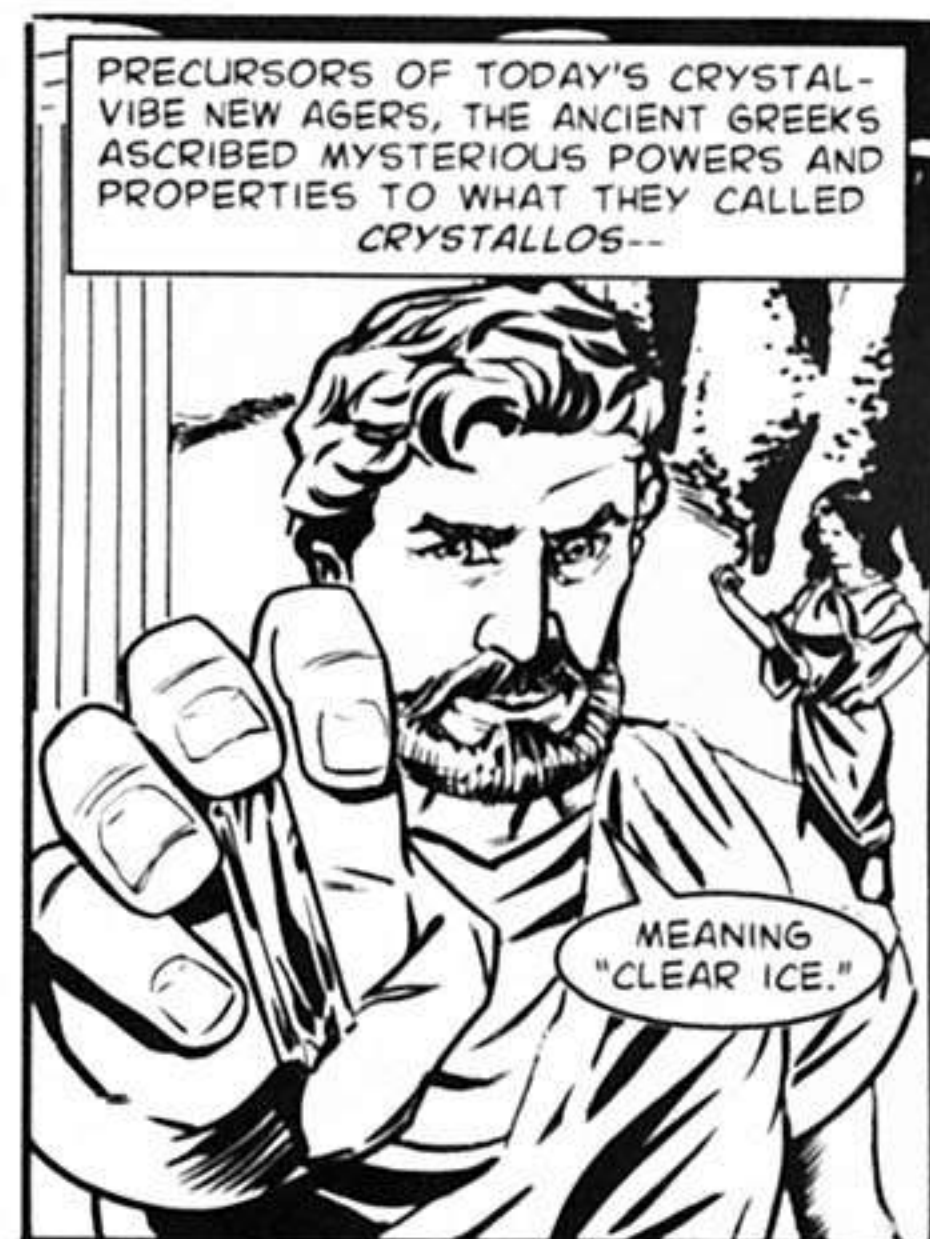


BINGO!—ONE MONOLITHIC MYSTERY INSTANTLY SOLVED, LEAVING ONLY THIS CHICKEN-OR-EGG POSTSCRIPT:

WHICH CAME FIRST—THE ENERGY OR THE ACUPUNCTURE?

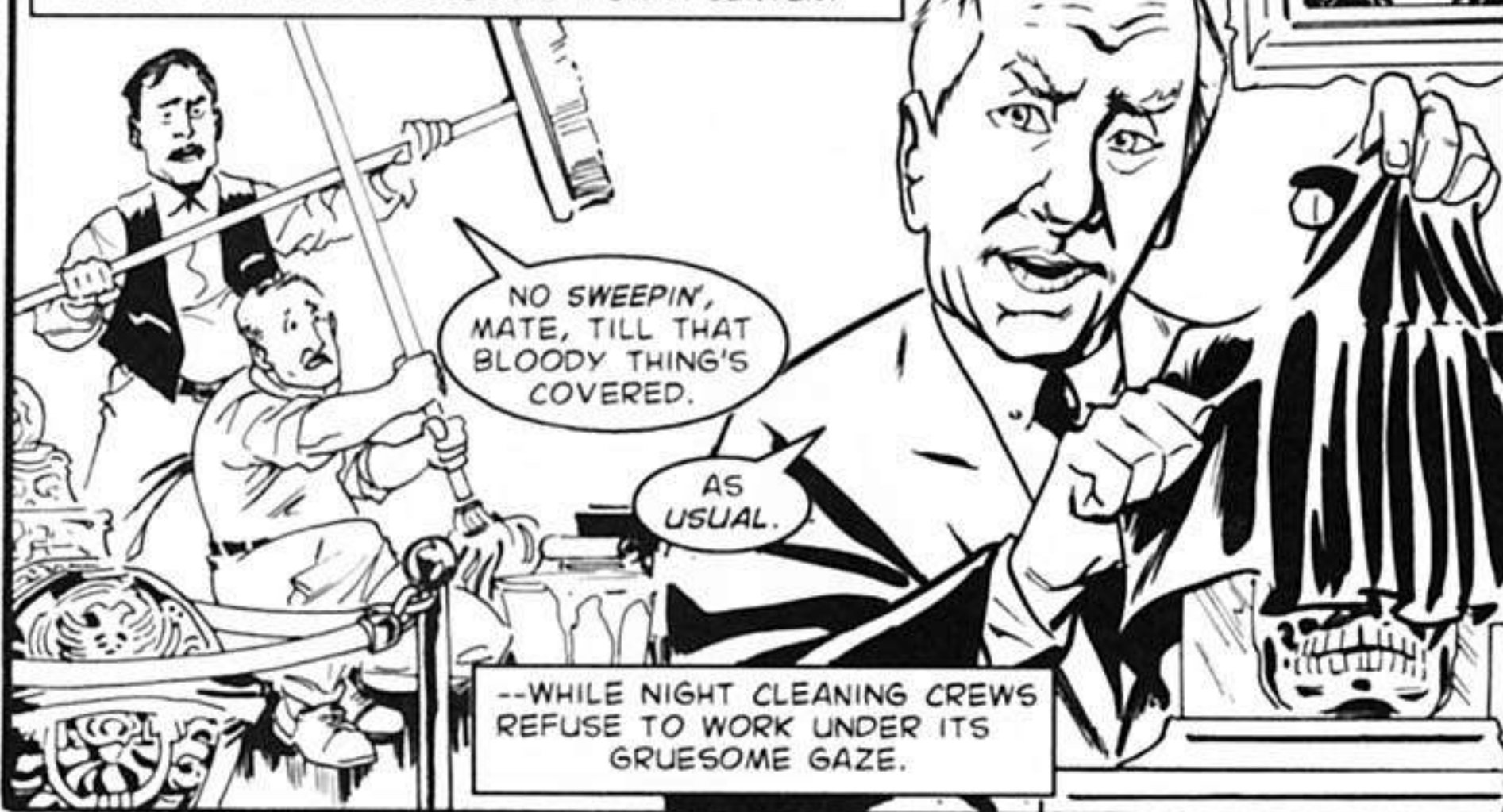








POOH-POOHING ANY NOTION OF MYSTICAL PROPERTIES, CURATORS ADMIT THEIR SKULL HAS BEEN THE MUSEUM'S MOST POPULAR ATTRACTION SO FAR, HOLDING VISITORS SPELLBOUND FOR A CENTURY--



IN CONTRAST TO THE CRUDER BRIT MUSEUM SKULL (WITH ITS "MERE INDICATIONS OF TEETH CHARACTERISTIC OF ANCIENT MEXICAN ART"), THE M-H SPECIMEN IS SO ANATOMICALLY PRECISE THAT IT COULD BE AN ACTUAL SKULL, SOMEHOW "TRANSMUTED" TO CRYSTAL.



WHILE A SINGLE MARK ON ONE TOOTH OF THE BRIT MUSEUM SKULL MAY BE EVIDENCE OF A RELATIVELY MODERN BOW-AND-STRING CUTTING TOOL, THE ALLEGEDLY OLDER M-H "MAYAN" SKULL BEARS NO TOOL MARKS AT ALL.



AND IF THE M-H SKULL WAS PAINSTAKINGLY GROUND AND POLISHED BY HAND AND SAND ALONE, IT WOULD HAVE TAKEN 150 TO 300 YEARS TO DO THE JOB!



FACED WITH SUCH AN IMPOSSIBLE ARTIFACT, SOME RESEARCHERS WONDER IF ANCIENT STONEMASONS POSSESSED HIGHLY SOPHISTICATED TOOLS AND EVEN "STONE-SOFTENING LIQUIDS."



IN 1927, ADVENTURER-EXPLORER F.A. "MIKE" MITCHELL-HEDGES TOOK HIS ADOPTED DAUGHTER ANNA TO EXCAVATE THE "LOST CITY" OF LUBAANTUM IN HONDURAS, NOW BELIZE.





DIGGING IN TEMPLE RUINS ON HER 17TH BIRTHDAY, ANNA SIFTED THROUGH THE RUBBLE OF A COLLAPSED ALTAR AND GLIMPSED THE GLITTER OF SOMETHING ASTOUNDING.

LOOK, DADDY!  
A SKULL OF CRYSTAL  
—WITH NO LOWER  
JAW!

THREE MONTHS LATER, NEAR THAT SAME SPOT, ANNA MADE ANOTHER DISCOVERY.

LOOK,  
DADDY!  
A LOWER  
JAW!

THE TWO MADE  
A PERFECTLY  
HINGED FIT.

SO PERFECT, IN FACT, THAT MAYAN PRIESTS COULD HAVE ROCKED THE SKULL BACK FOR AN OPEN-MOUTHED "SPEAKING" EFFECT.

AUTHORS ADRIAN GILBERT AND MAURICE COTTERELL SUGGEST THE SKULL COULD HAVE ACTED AS A HUGE MAGNIFYING GLASS TO FOCUS SUNLIGHT—ENABLING IT TO LITERALLY "BREATHE FIRE."

BEHOLD THE  
MAGIC POWER  
OF DEATH!

YAAAAH!

PAY NO  
ATTENTION TO  
THE VENTRILOQUIST  
BEHIND THE SKULL!  
JUST GIVE ME YOUR  
BEATING HEART!

SKEPTICS, HOWEVER, DOUBT THE ARTIFACT'S AUTHENTICITY, SUGGESTING THAT MIKE MITCHELL-HEDGES MAY HAVE GOOSSED THE TRUTH AND PLANTED THE SKULL AS A BIRTHDAY PRESENT FOR HIS DAUGHTER.

HEH HEH HEH  
...WON'T SHE BE  
SURPRISED?

IF SO, IT COULD HAVE COME  
FROM ANY PLACE AND ANY  
TIME UP TO 1927.

TO WHICH ANNA  
REPLIED IN 1987:

NONSENSE!  
MY FATHER WOULD  
NOT HAVE SPENT MANY  
THOUSANDS OF POUNDS  
ON AN EXPEDITION JUST  
TO BURY A CRYSTAL  
SKULL.





BEFORE HIS DEATH IN 1959, MITCHELL-HEDGES HIMSELF HAD THIS TO SAY, SUPPOSEDLY PASSED ON FROM LOCAL DESCENDANTS OF THE MAYA:

IT IS AT LEAST 3,600 YEARS OLD AND ACCORDING TO LEGEND WAS USED BY THE HIGH PRIEST WHEN PERFORMING ESO-TERIC RITES.

WHEN HE WILLED DEATH WITH THE HELP OF THE SKULL, DEATH INVARIABLY FOLLOWED. IT HAS BEEN DESCRIBED AS THE EMBODIMENT OF ALL EVIL.



IF TRUE, THEN THE SKULL CAME FROM A CITY ABANDONED MORE THAN 1000 YEARS AGO—AND "3,600 YEARS OLD" MAKES THE SKULL A THOUSAND YEARS OLDER THAN ANY MAYANS, LET ALONE THE HIGH CIVILIZATION OF A.D. 700 TO 900.



FURTHERMORE, WITH ITS MORTAR-LESS CONSTRUCTION AND COMPLETE ABSENCE OF CHARACTERISTIC STATUES, STELES, AND HIEROGLYPHS, LUBAANTUM IS UNLIKE EVERY KNOWN MAYAN SITE.

INDEED, AUTHOR-EXPLORER DAVID HATCHER CHILDRESS SAYS LUBAANTUM MAY NOT BE MAYAN AT ALL—BUT SOMETHING FAR OLDER.



MOST SUPRISINGLY, AFTER STUDYING THE M-H SKULL FOR SIX YEARS, HEW-LETT-PACKARD CRYSTALLOGRAPHER FRANK DORLAND CONCLUDED:

IT COULD BE 12,000 YEARS OLD.

HIS OTHER FINDINGS ARE EVEN MORE STUNNING.



WHEN DORLAND TOOK THE SKULL HOME, HE DISCOVERED THAT IT "PRODUCED SOUNDS"—"HIGH-PITCHED SILVER BELLS," CHANTING AND "A CAPPELLA CHOIRS," THE SOUNDS OF "PROWLING JUNGLE CATS"—

--ALL CLEARLY HEARD (BY OTHERS AS WELL) YET IM-POSSIBLE TO TAPE-RECORD.



DORLAND ALSO SAYS THE SKULL HOLDS "VISIONS" FOR MANY PEOPLE: "I HAVE BEEN SHAKEN UP A BIT MYSELF, BECAUSE I HAVE SEEN A LONG THING LIKE A COF-FIN, WITH MAYBE A DOZEN SKULLS ON IT."



DORLAND ALSO SAW FACES AND HIGH MOUNTAINS WITHIN THE CRYSTAL SKULL—AND ONCE PHOTOGRAPHED AN "AURA" OR ENERGY-GLOW AROUND IT.



OTHERS DESCRIBE A GREENISH OR "COTTONY HAZE" GLOW WITHIN THE TEMPORAL LOBE AREA—AND THERE ARE ALLEGEDLY PHOTOS OF THIS GLOW FORMING UFOS ABOVE THE ANCIENT TEMPLES OF CHICHEN ITZA.

DORLAND SAYS THESE ARE "INKBLOT-LIKE SCENES"—DISTORTED REFRACTIONS AND REFLECTIONS OF NORMAL OBJECTS IN THE ROOM.



"THE SKULL MAKES PEOPLE THIRSTY," DORLAND SAYS, WHILE OTHER COMMONLY REPORTED PHYSICAL EFFECTS INCLUDE ACCELERATED PULSE AND A "TUGGING OF THE EYES FROM THEIR SOCKETS."

HALLLLP!



DORLAND: "I WOULD SAY THAT THE MASS OF CRYSTAL TRIGGERS CERTAIN REFLEXES IN THE BRAIN, TO HEAR THINGS, SEE THINGS"—WHICH MAY BE WHY THE MAYANS PRIZED CRYSTAL FOR ITS "MAGICAL" ABILITIES.



IT'S A BELIEF SHARED BY RUMANIAN GYPSIES (ORIGINALLY FROM INDIA) AND OTHER FORTUNE-TELLERS THROUGH THE AGES.

I SEE A TALL DARK MAN...

BIGFOOT OR MAN IN BLACK?

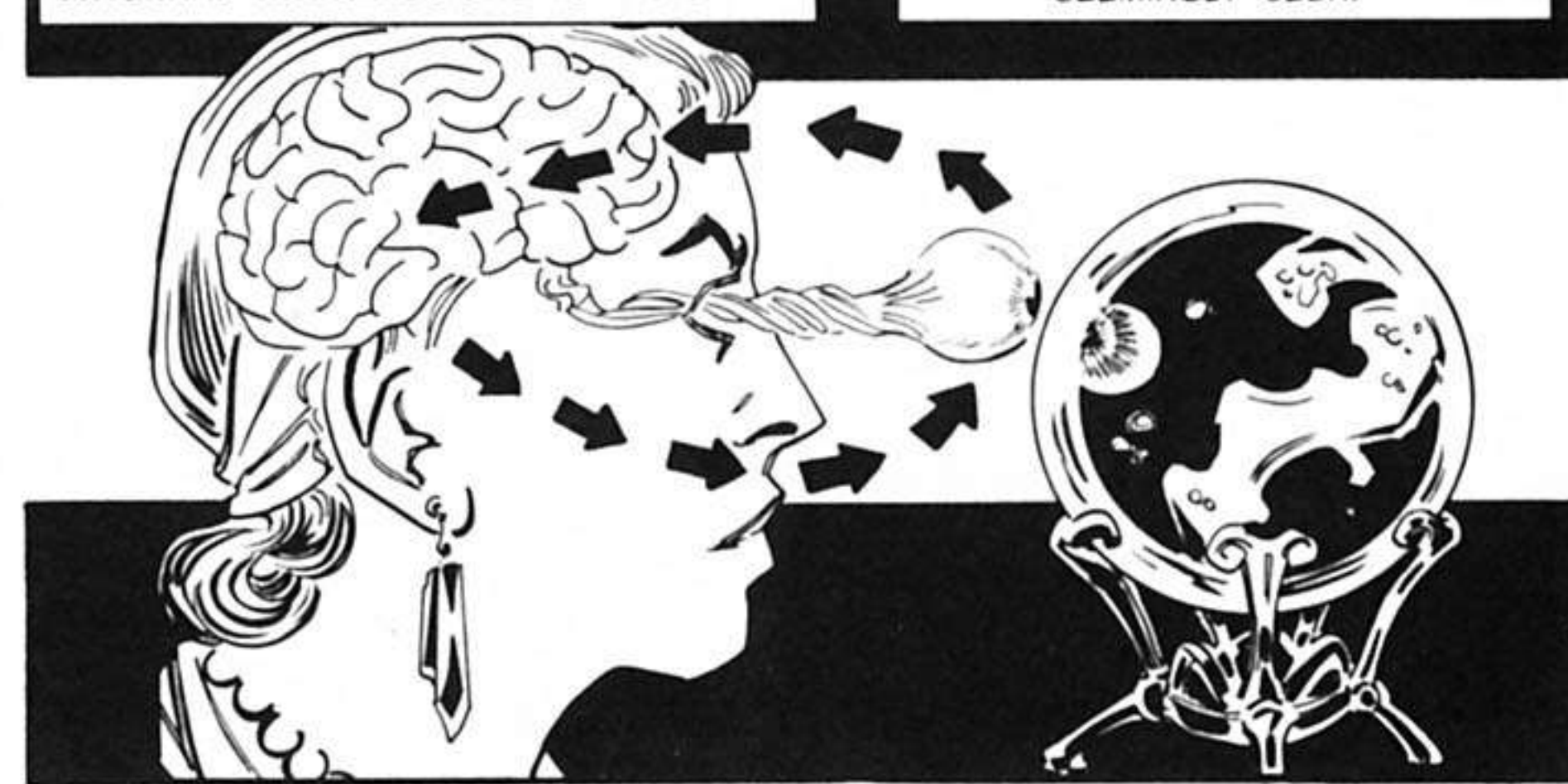


"SCRYING" (FROM *DESCRY*: "TO CATCH SIGHT OF") IS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A SEER STARES AT ANY REFLECTIVE SURFACE—WATER, METAL, GLASS, EVEN A SOAP BUBBLE, AS WELL AS CRYSTAL BALLS—UNTIL THE FUTURE IS DISCERNED.



GEORGE KUNZ SUGGESTS A "SCIENTIFIC" EXPLANATION FOR SCRYING: AFTER PROLONGED STARING AT ANY POLISHED SURFACE, THE OPTIC NERVES MAY BECOME FATIGUED OR EVEN PARALYZED, CEASING EXTERNAL TRANSMISSIONS TO THE BRAIN.

NORMAL SIGHT IS THEN REVERSED, WITH THE STARVED BRAIN SUPPLYING INTERNAL IMAGES WHICH ARE "PROJECTED" ONTO OR INTO THE REFLECTIVE OBJECT, THERE TO BE SEEMINGLY SEEN.





WITH UNIQUE PIEZOELECTRIC PROPERTIES (IDEAL FOR RADIOS AND WRISTWATCHES), CAN QUARTZ CRYSTAL SOMEHOW "CHANNEL THE FREQUENCY" OF BRAINWAVES WITHIN THE GAZER'S SKULL?



FRANK DORLAND FEELS THAT CRYSTAL DOES INDEED ACT AS AN "AMPLIFIER FOR PSYCHIC ENERGY"—WHILE CRYSTAL RESEARCHER NICK NOCERINO BELIEVES THE M-H SKULL ACTUALLY "RECORDS VIBRATIONS OF EVENTS OCCURRING AROUND IT," ACTING AS A "CAMERA."

(MAKING ONE MAN'S "INKBLOT" ANOTHER MAN'S HOLOGRAPH.)



SO CRYSTAL'S WEIRD—BUT HOW WEIRD? CAN ITS "VIBES" BRIDGE THE GULF TO ANOTHER REALITY, CO-EXISTING WITH OUR OWN SPACE AND TIME BUT AT A "DIFFERENT FREQUENCY?"

DOES THE SKULL "TUNE IN" THAT FREQUENCY, JUST AS A RADIO-CRYSTAL TUNES THE FREQUENCIES OF DIFFERENT BROADCAST STATIONS?



MAYBE THE SKULL'S CRYSTALLINE CURVATURE REFLECTS "MIRAGES" FROM THAT OTHER SPACE-TIME—JUST AS THE CURVATURE OF EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE ABOVE BRISTOL, ENGLAND, REFLECTS A MIRAGE OF THAT CITY IN THE SKY OVER ALASKA.



THE AUTHORS OF "MYSTERY OF THE CRYSTAL SKULLS REVEALED" GET WEIRDEST OF ALL, SUGGESTING THE M-H SPECIMEN IS ONLY ONE OF THIRTEEN HIGH-TECH MYSTICAL SKULLS ONCE KEPT IN TIBET—BUT ORIGINALLY FROM ATLANTIS.





THE "MYTH" OF THE GREAT CATAclySM IS SHARED BY THE ANCIENT PEOPLES OF MEXICO, CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA —AS IS THE FOLLOW-UP STORY OF THE WHITE-SKINNED BEARDED "GOD" COMING FROM THE SEA IN A "BOAT WITHOUT PADDLES" TO TEACH CIVILIZATION.

THE MAYANS KNEW THIS GOD AS "KUKULCAN"—WHILE HE WAS "QUETZALCOATL" TO THE AZTECS AND "VIRACocha" TO THE INCAS.



AUTHOR GRAHAM HANCOCK HINTS THAT THESE "GODS" WERE ACTUAL MEN FROM SOME HIGHLY ADVANCED ANCIENT CIVILIZATION—PERHAPS SUNKEN ATLANTIS—PASSING ON THE LEGACY OF THEIR DESTROYED CULTURE.



THE ANCIENT SUMERIANS (EARTH'S FIRST CIVILIZATION, WHICH MYSTERIOUSLY APPEARED "OVERNIGHT") TOLD THE SAME POST-FLOOD STORY OF "GODS" ARRIVING TO TEACH WRITING, AGRICULTURE, BUILDING, MARRIAGE—EVERYTHING.



AND THE HIGH PRIESTS OF ANCIENT EGYPT TOLD PLATO FLAT-OUT THAT ALL THEIR SCIENCE AND MYSTICISM WAS TAUGHT BY "ELDERS FROM ATLANTIS" TRACING A STRAIGHT LINE ACROSS THE ATLANTIC OCEAN BETWEEN THE WORLD'S TWO GREAT "PYRAMID CULTURES."



MIKE MITCHELL-HEDGES' PURPOSE IN LUBAANTUM, BY THE WAY, WAS TO "SEARCH FOR EVIDENCE OF ATLANTIS"—AND HIS DAUGHTER MAY HAVE FOUND IT.



AND SO, WHILE IT'S EASY TO DISMISS TODAY'S CRYSTAL-HUGGING REINCARNATED ATLANTEANS, JUST REMEMBER: RULERS HAVE ALWAYS RELIED ON SCRYERS—AND EMPIRES HAVE RISEN AND FALLEN BASED ON WHAT THEY'VE SEEN.

ALL OF WHICH MAKES ONE THING CRYSTAL-CLEAR--

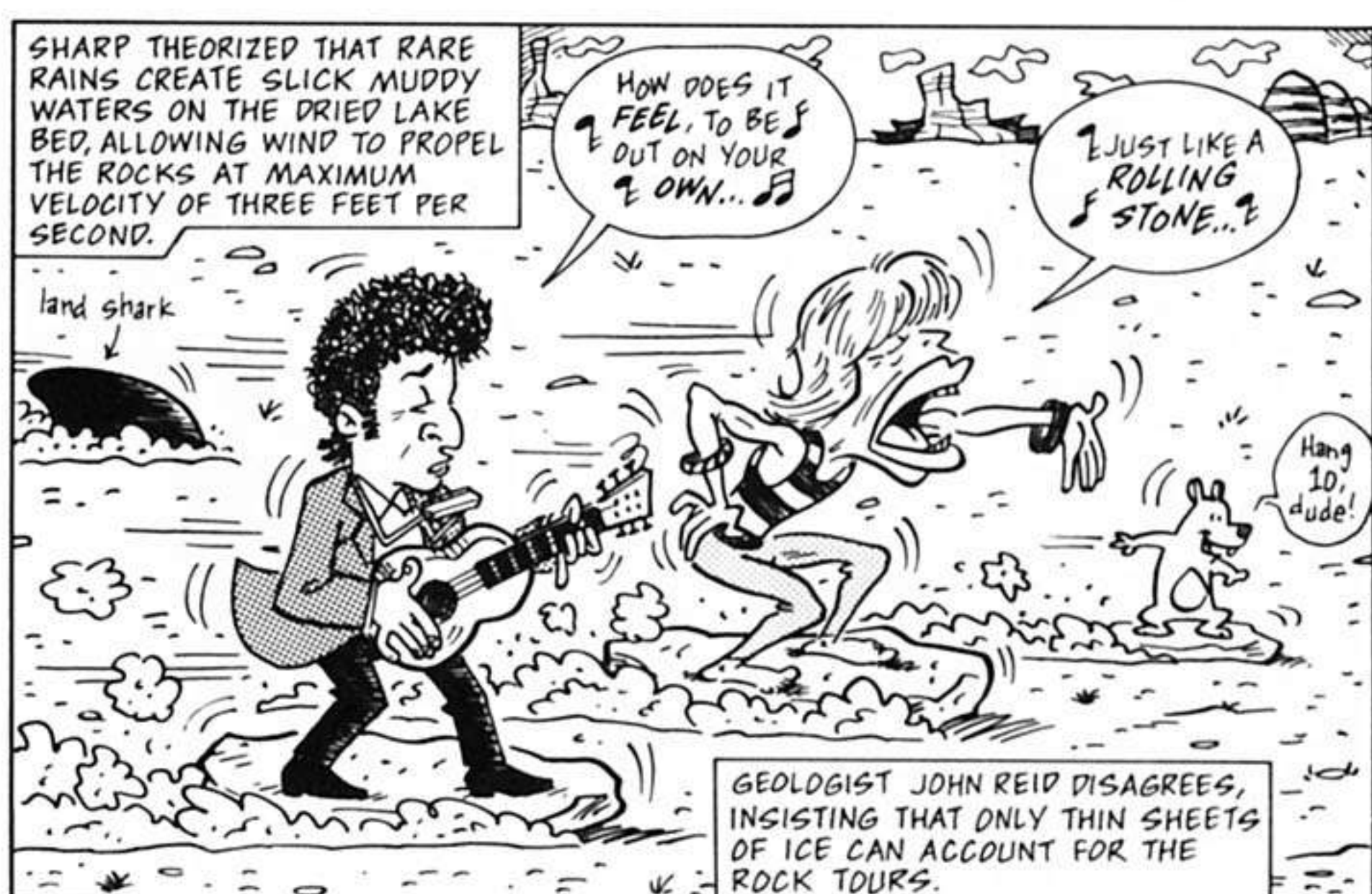


--THAT NANCY REAGAN AND HILLARY CLINTON WERE SIMPLY UPHOLDING PALACE TRADITION BY INVITING "NEW AGE KOOKS" TO THE WHITE HOUSE.

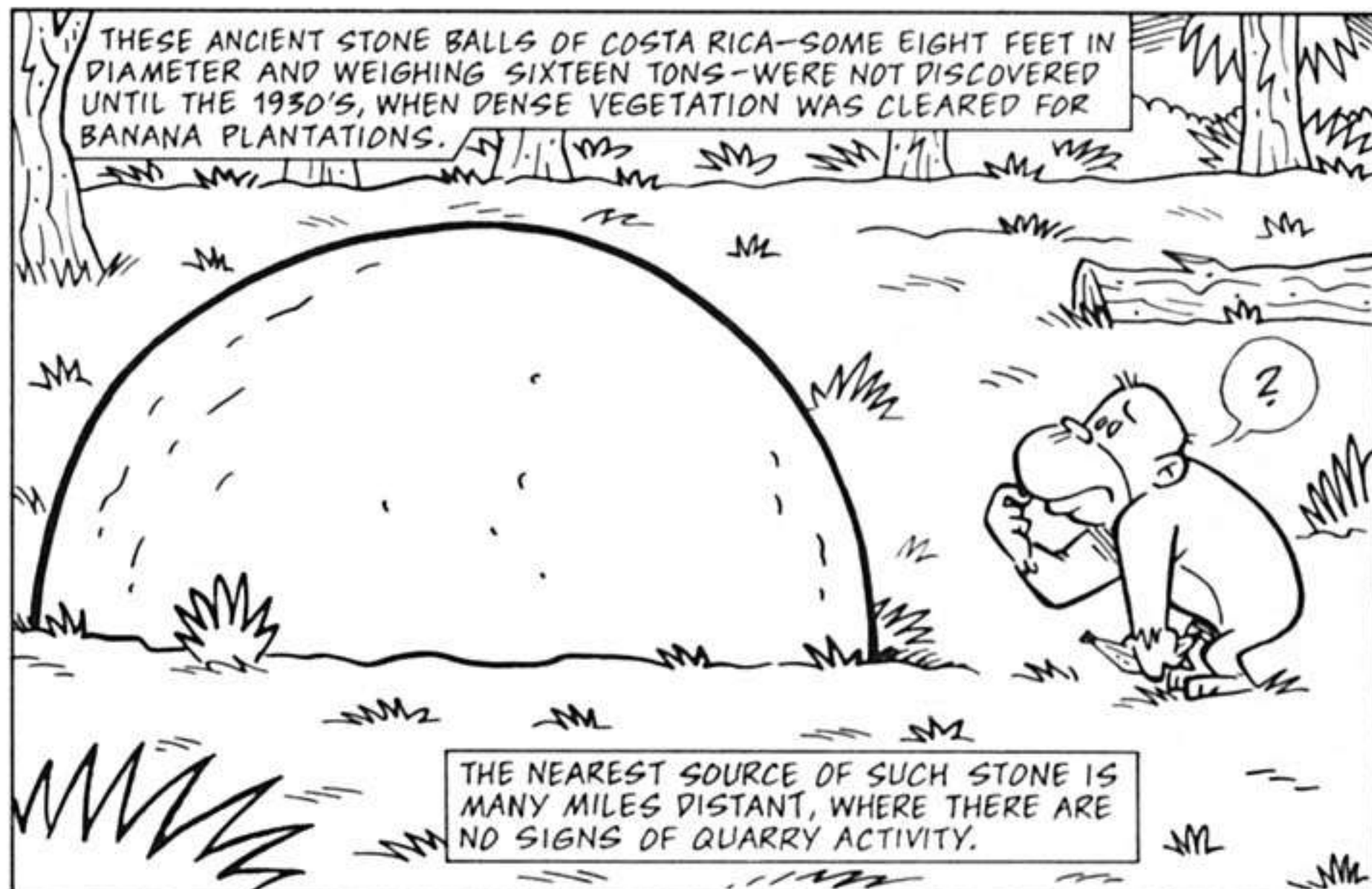
NO IT'S NOT A BOMB—IT'S A CRYSTAL BALL! I'M HERE TO SEE THE FIRST LADY—AND THE FUTURE TOO!



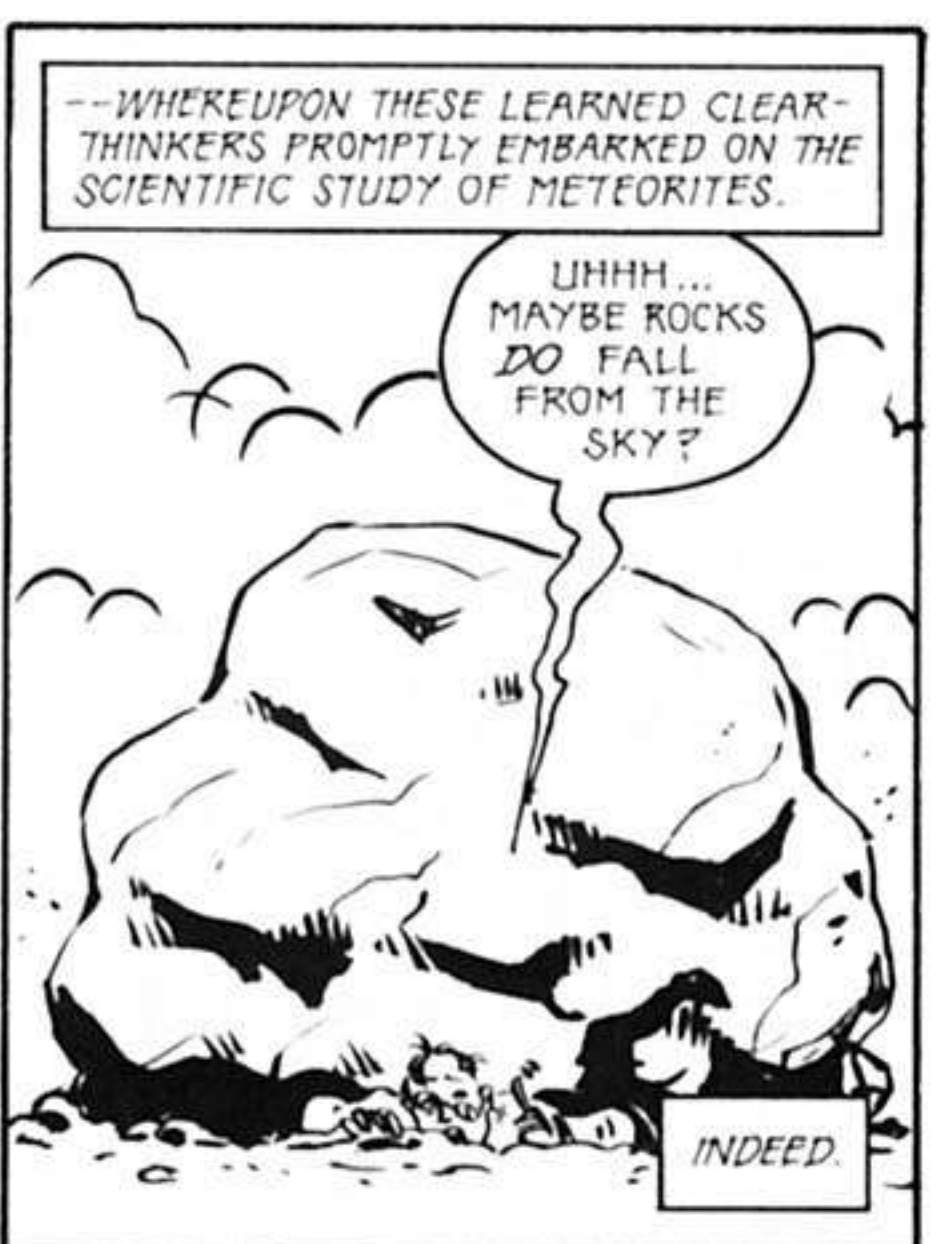
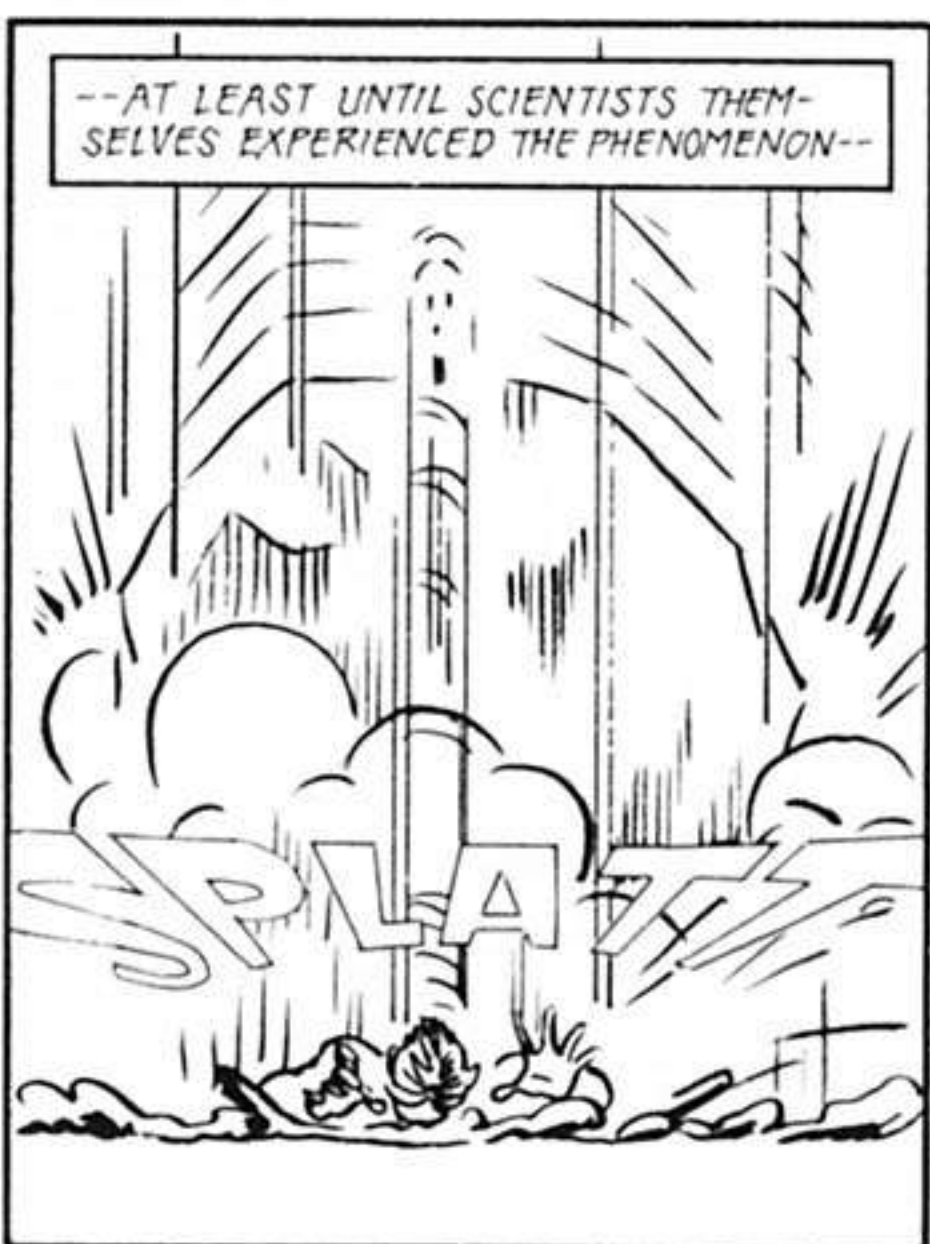
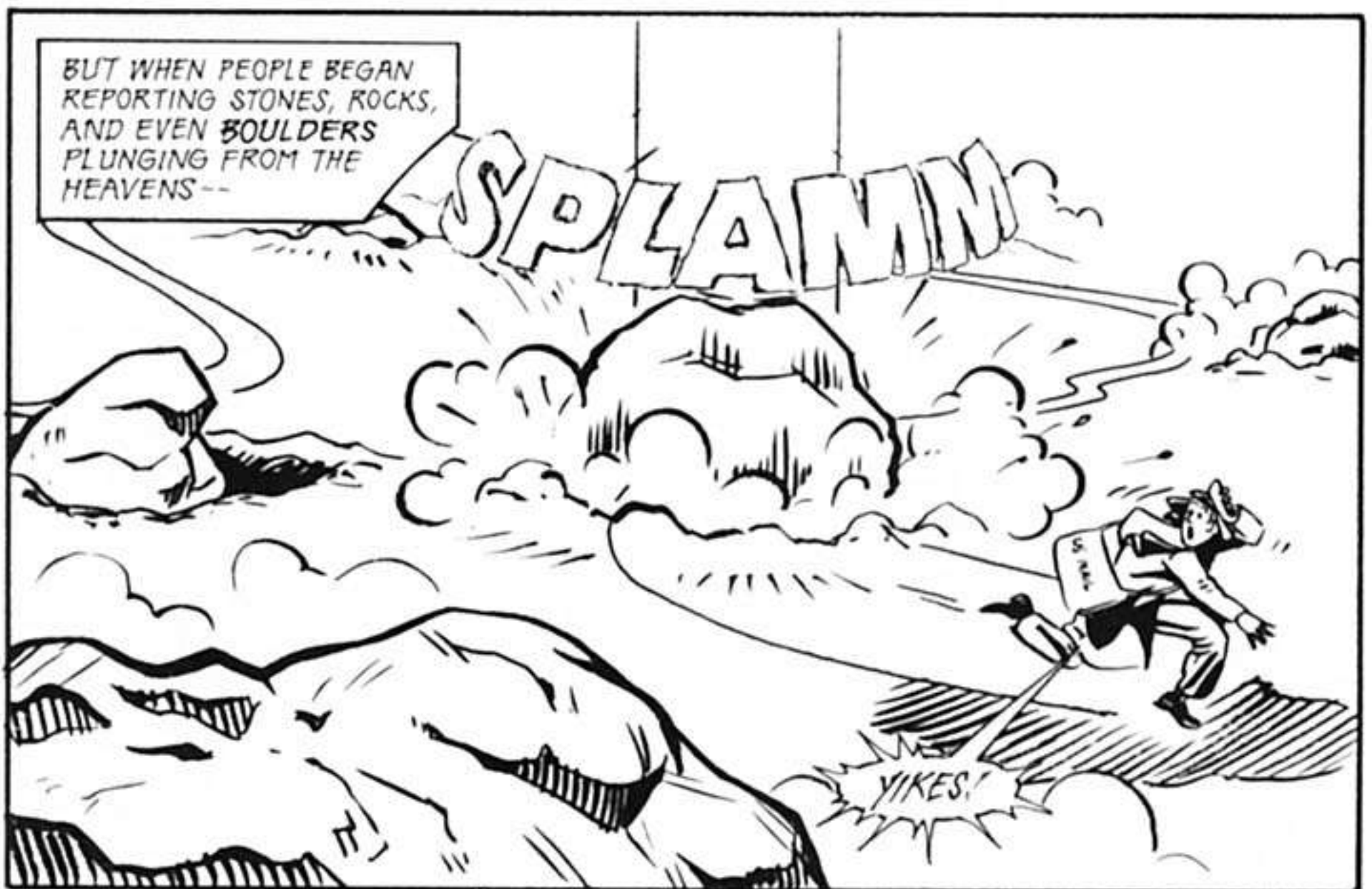
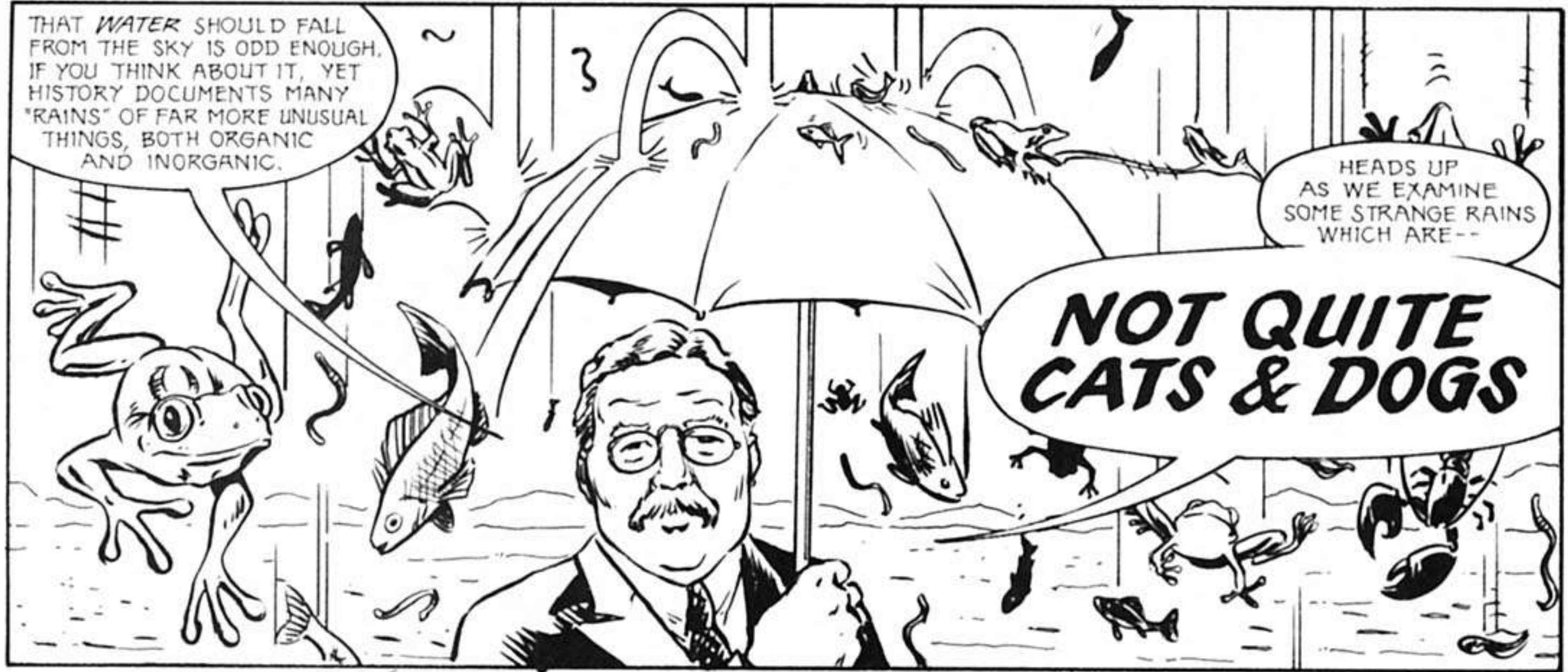








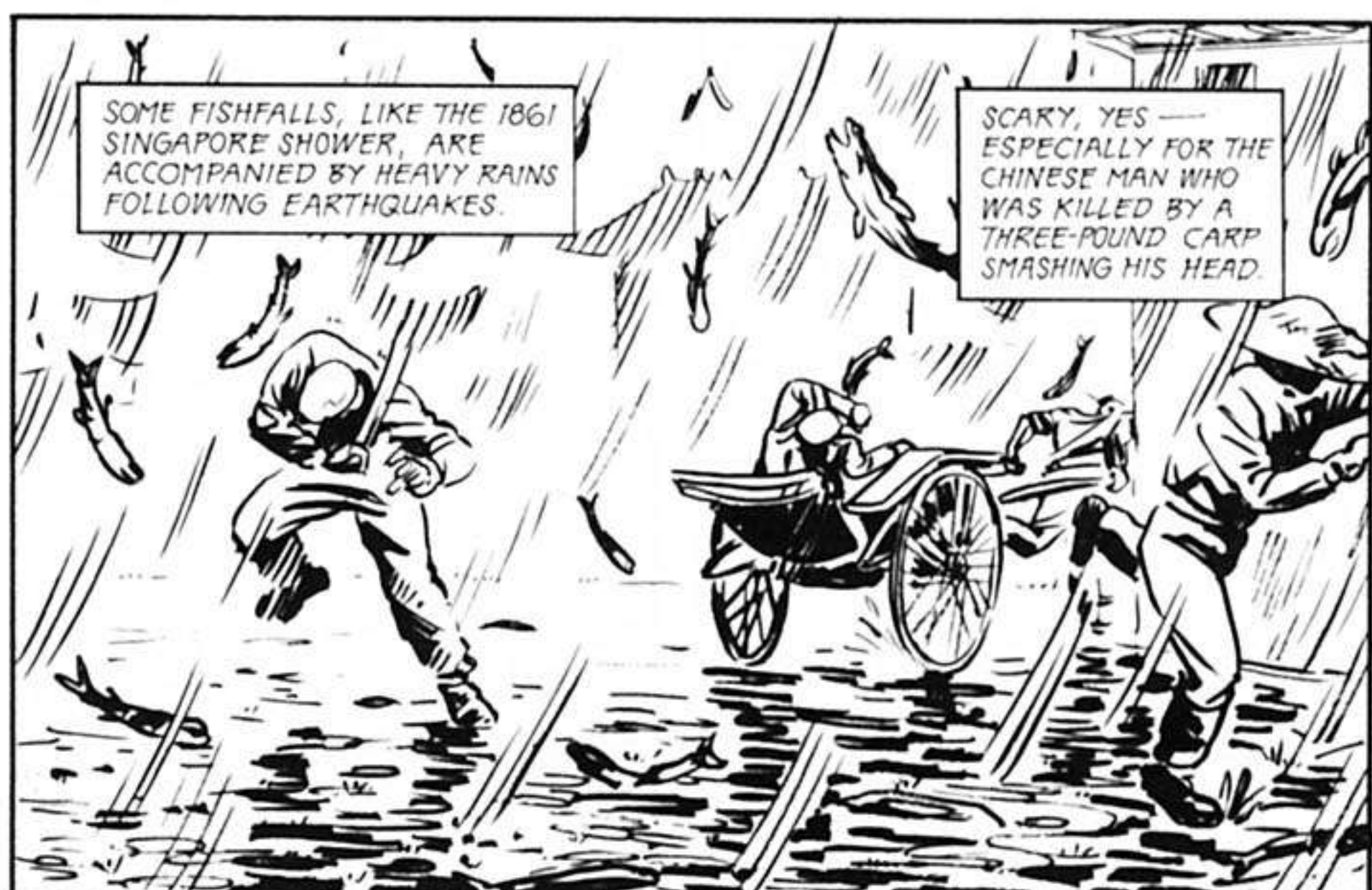
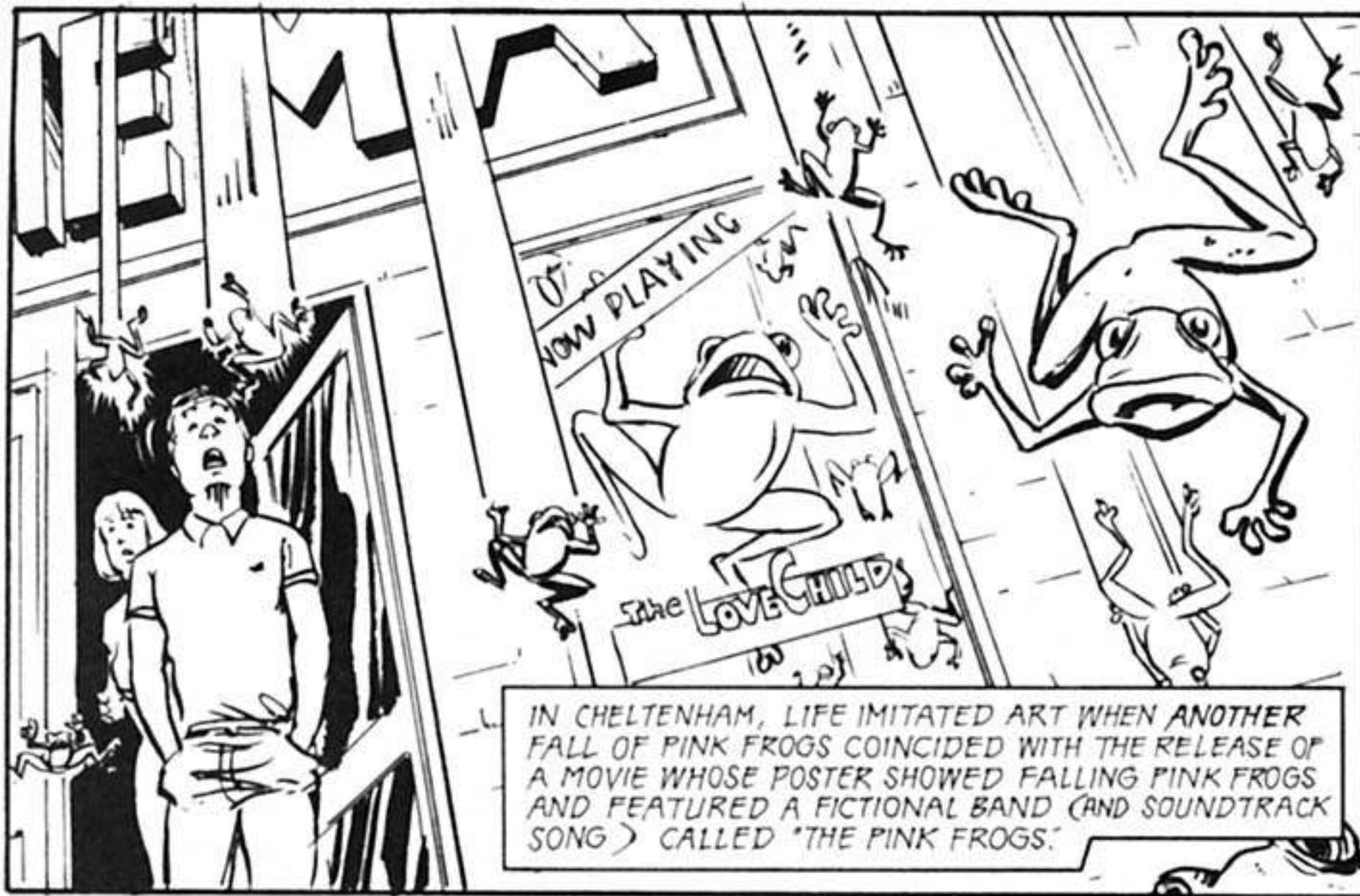














MORE RECENT FISHFALLS, LIKE THE 1984 DOWNPOUR ON THE SANTA MONICA FREEWAY, HAVE STALLED TRAFFIC, SHATTERED WINDSHIELDS, AND EVEN CAUSED ACCIDENTS.

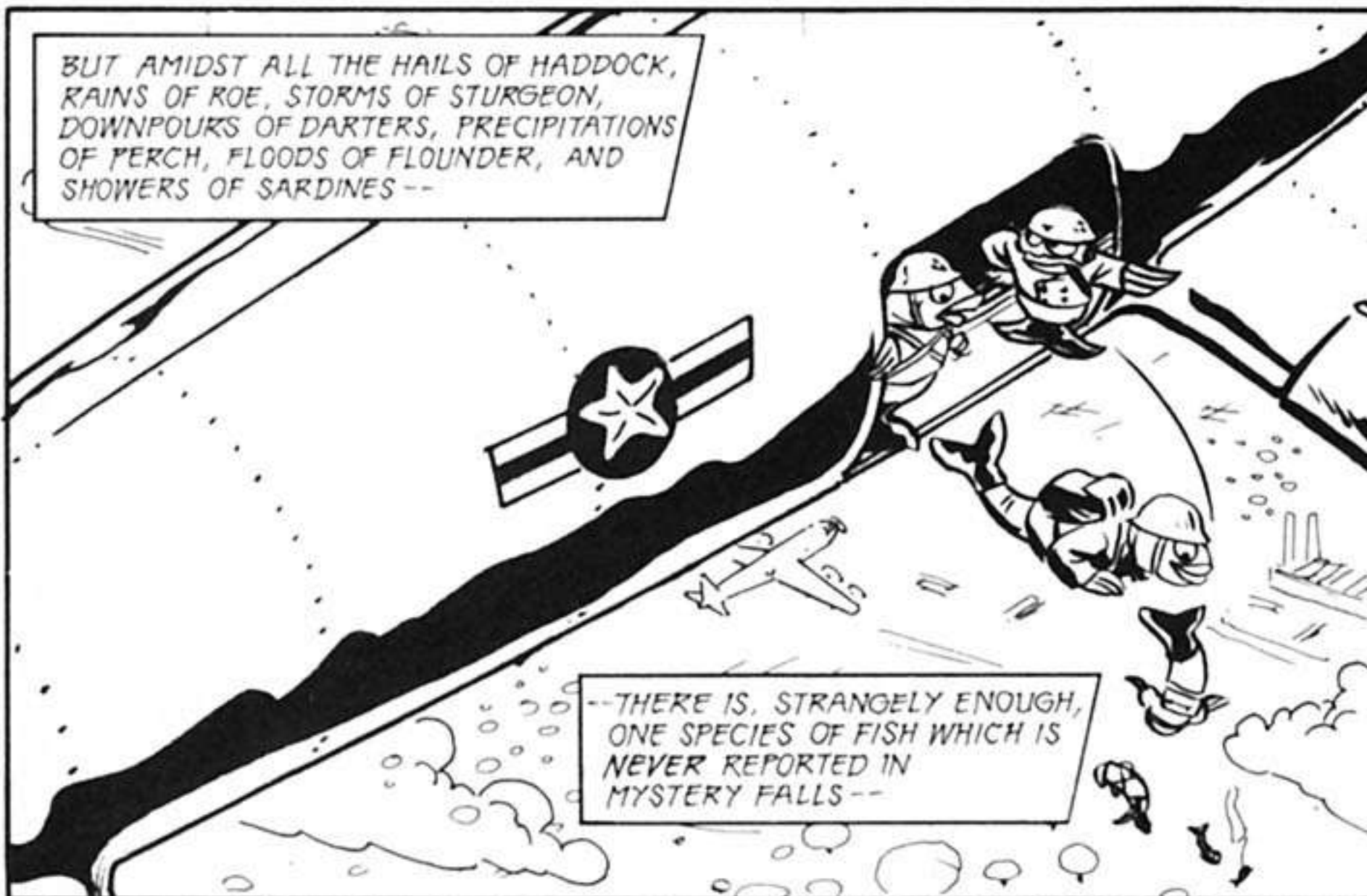
LIKE FISH OUT OF THEIR DEPTHS, CONFUSED AUTHORITIES FLOUNDER FOR RATIONAL EXPLANATIONS, USUALLY SETTLING FOR "PRANKSTERS WITH CATAPULTS," "TORNADOS," OR "SPILLS FROM PASSING DELIVERY TRUCKS."



AND THUS IT EVER WAS — EVEN IN THE 18TH CENTURY, WHEN A TRANSYLVANIAN FISHFALL WAS BLAMED ON THE SAME SATANIC FORCES ALLEGEDLY RESPONSIBLE FOR VAMPIRES.



BUT AMIDST ALL THE HAILS OF HADDOCK, RAINS OF ROE, STORMS OF STURGEON, DOWNPOURS OF DARTERS, PRECIPITATIONS OF PERCH, FLOODS OF FLOUNDER, AND SHOWERS OF SARDINES --



--THERE IS, STRANGELY ENOUGH, ONE SPECIES OF FISH WHICH IS NEVER REPORTED IN MYSTERY FALLS--

THE FLYING FISH.



THE CULPRITS IN OTHER ANOMALOUS FALLS ARE CHUNKS OF ICE (FAR LARGER THAN ANY RECORDED HAILSTONES) THAT OFTEN PLUMMET FROM PERFECTLY CLEAR SKIES.

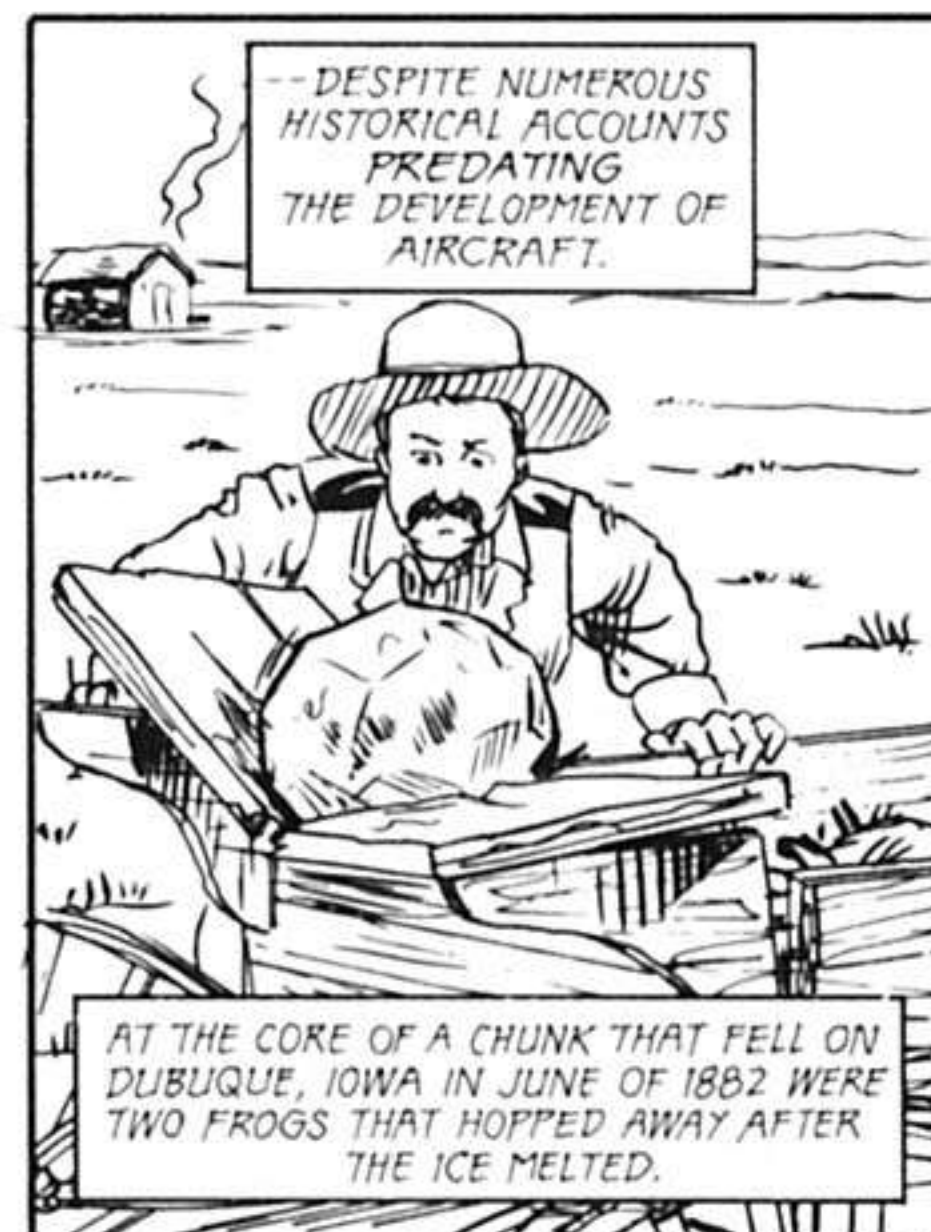
I DON'T THINK OUR INSURANCE COVERS THIS!



SUCH ICEFALLS ARE ROUTINELY "EXPLAINED" AS EJECTA FROM PASSING JETLINERS --



--DESPITE NUMEROUS HISTORICAL ACCOUNTS PREDATING THE DEVELOPMENT OF AIRCRAFT.



AT THE CORE OF A CHUNK THAT FELL ON DUBUQUE, IOWA IN JUNE OF 1882 WERE TWO FROGS THAT HOPPED AWAY AFTER THE ICE MELTED.



PUTTING ASIDE ALL THINGS ORGANIC FOR A MOMENT, THERE'S LITTLE TO EXPLAIN THE RAINS OF CERTAIN MANMADE OBJECTS--

-- LIKE THE GENTLE SPRINKLING OF COINS THAT FELL NEAR SAINT ELIZABETH'S CHURCH IN ENGLAND.

PENCES FROM HEAVEN, THEY ARE!

A METAL SPHERE WHICH APPARENTLY FELL ON FLORIDA IN 1974 HAS BEEN LINKED TO "GIANT GYROS" FOUND IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND IN THE WAKE OF UFO SIGHTINGS--

-- BRINGING US TO THE "EXTRATERRESTRIAL SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH" THEORY.

DIDN'T I TELL YOU TO WAIT UNTIL WE REACHED WATER BEFORE DISPOSING OF THOSE MARINE SPECIMENS?!

OOPS.

ABSURD? YES.

AND BESIDES, ANY SATISFACTORY EXPLANATION MUST EMBRACE THE ENTIRE SPECTRUM OF MYSTERY FALLS: EELS, TOADS, CRABS, PERIWINKLES, PENNIES, PAPER CURRENCY, FUNGI--

-- MAGGOTS, "MANNA", INSCRIBED STONES, "ANGEL-HAIR", BLOBS AND "PROTOPLASMS", BLOOD AND LUMPS OF FLESH, BLACK, RED, AND BLUE RAIN, CRUCIFIXES AND OTHER RELIGIOUS ARTIFACTS, MASKS--

-- MARBLE CYLINDERS, COOKIES, OIL, CANDLE WAX, "STAR JELLY", MEAT, "BOG BUTTER", LICHEN, GRAINS, SEEDS, ALABASTER, SHARDS OF GLASS AND METAL, MUSSELS, WORMS, LIZARDS, TURTLES, SALAMANDERS--

-- CANDY, BLACK EGGS, SNAILS, COAL, AND FROZEN DUCKS-- TO MENTION JUST A FEW.

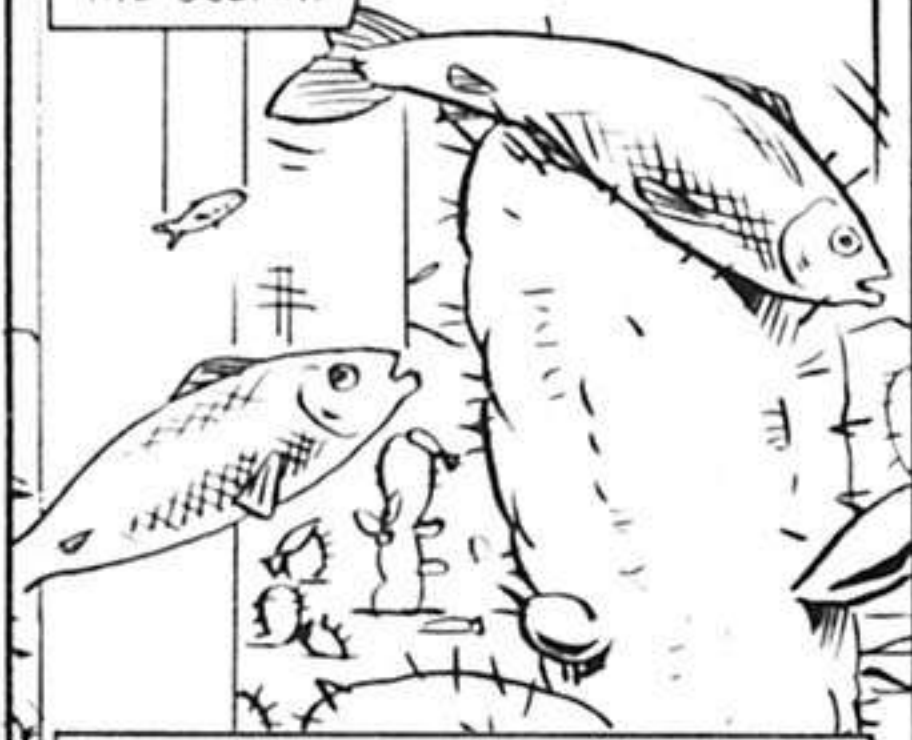
ICHTHYOLOGIST E.W. GUDGER PROPOSED FOUR EXPLANATIONS: LAND-MIGRATORS SUCH AS THE "WALKING CATFISH"; BURIED FISH BURROWING TO THE SURFACE; FISH STRANDED BY FLOODS OR OVERFLOWS; AND WATERSPOUTS.

OVERLOOKING THE FACT THAT GUDGER ADDRESSES ONLY FISH, HIS FOURTH EXPLANATION SEEMS PROMISING.

A WATERSPOUT SUCKS UP SURFACE WATER AND FISH, TRAVELS OVER LAND AND DUMPS ITS LOAD.



YET MOST MYSTERY FALLS CONSIST OF IDENTICAL CLONE-LIKE SPECIMENS — SOMETIMES DEEP-SEA SPECIES — AND OFTEN OCCUR VAST DISTANCES FROM THE OCEAN.



WATERSPOUTS ARE HARDLY SO SELECTIVE, NOR CAN THEY REACH SO DEEPLY INTO THE OCEAN OR TRAVEL SO FAR INLAND.

SO WHAT ABOUT A PSYCHIC FACTOR? MANY WEIRD FALLS ARE PRECEDED (OR SIGNED) BY A LOUD REPORT, THUNDERCLAP, OR --



SOUNDS LIKE YUH BETTER BREAK OUT THE CAST-IRON UMBRELLAS, MAW!

AND FURIOUSLY SELECTIVE SHOWERS OF PEBBLES HAVE LONG BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH POLTERGEIST ACTIVITY.



THAT DOES IT, PAW! CALL THE EXORCIST!

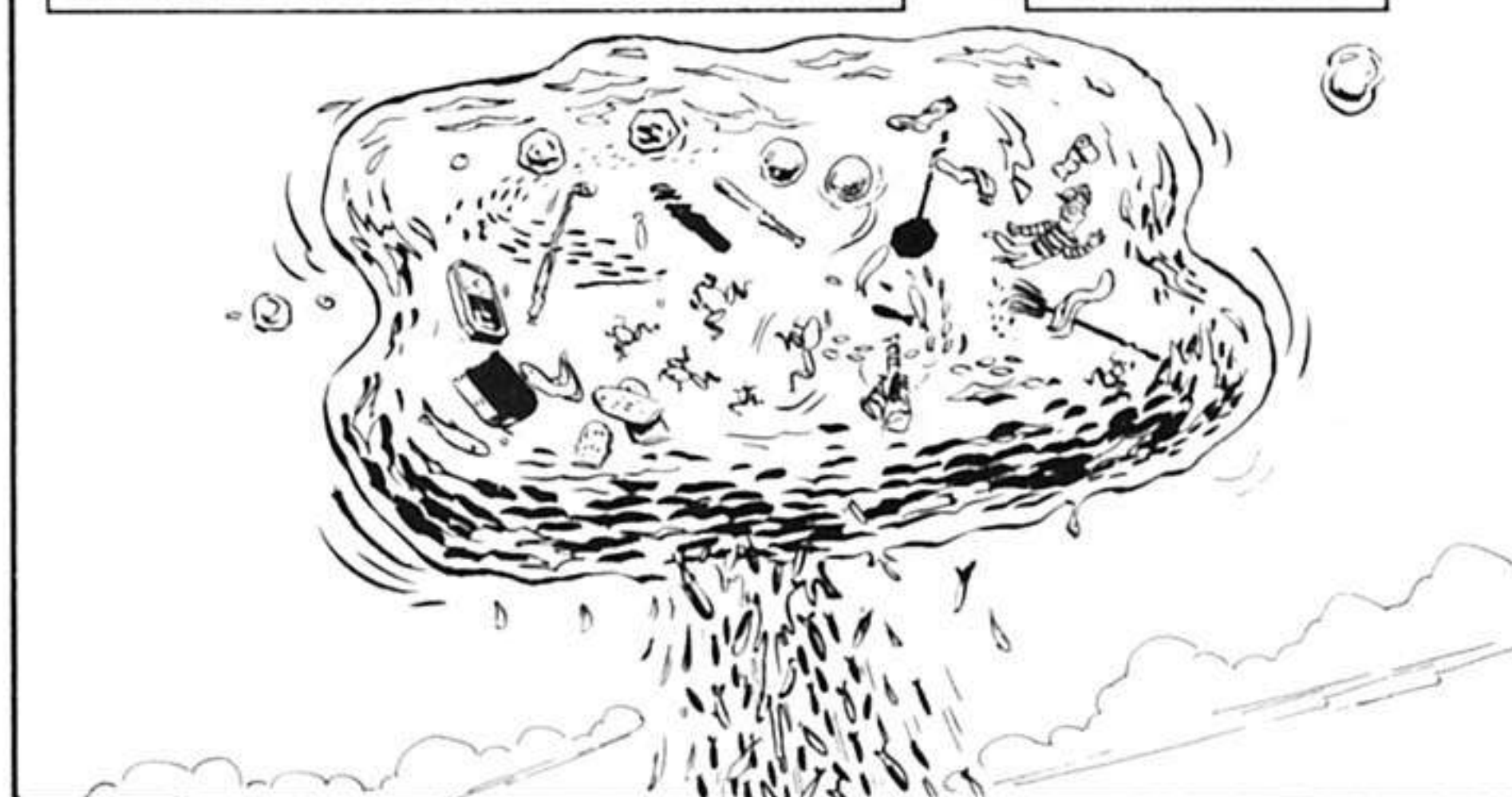
INDEED, OTHER THAN WHISTLING PAST THE GRAVEYARD — OR PERHAPS SINGIN' IN THE RAIN — NO OTHER RESPONSE SEEMS RATIONAL.



BUT WHAT ABOUT A THEORY FROM THE BOOK OF THE DAMNED CONCERNING A MYSTERIOUS REGION CALLED "THE SUPER-SARGASSO SEA?"

IT'S A REGION SOMEWHERE ABOVE, IN WHICH GRAVITY IS INOPERATIVE AND INTO WHICH THINGS FROM THIS EARTH ARE RAISED, AND THINGS CAST FROM OTHER WORLDS ARE COLLECTED --

-- UNTIL SHAKEN LOOSE BY STORMS, TO DROP LITERALLY "OUT OF THE BLUE."



MATCHING WEATHER PATTERNS WITH ANOMALOUS ACTIVITY, WRITER DAMON KNIGHT PROPOSED A "PARALLEL UNIVERSE" LOCATION FOR THIS SUPER-SARGASSO SEA --

-- WHENCE ODD THINGS PERIODICALLY POPPED INTO OUR REALITY VIA "ELECTROMAGNETIC TELEPORTATION."

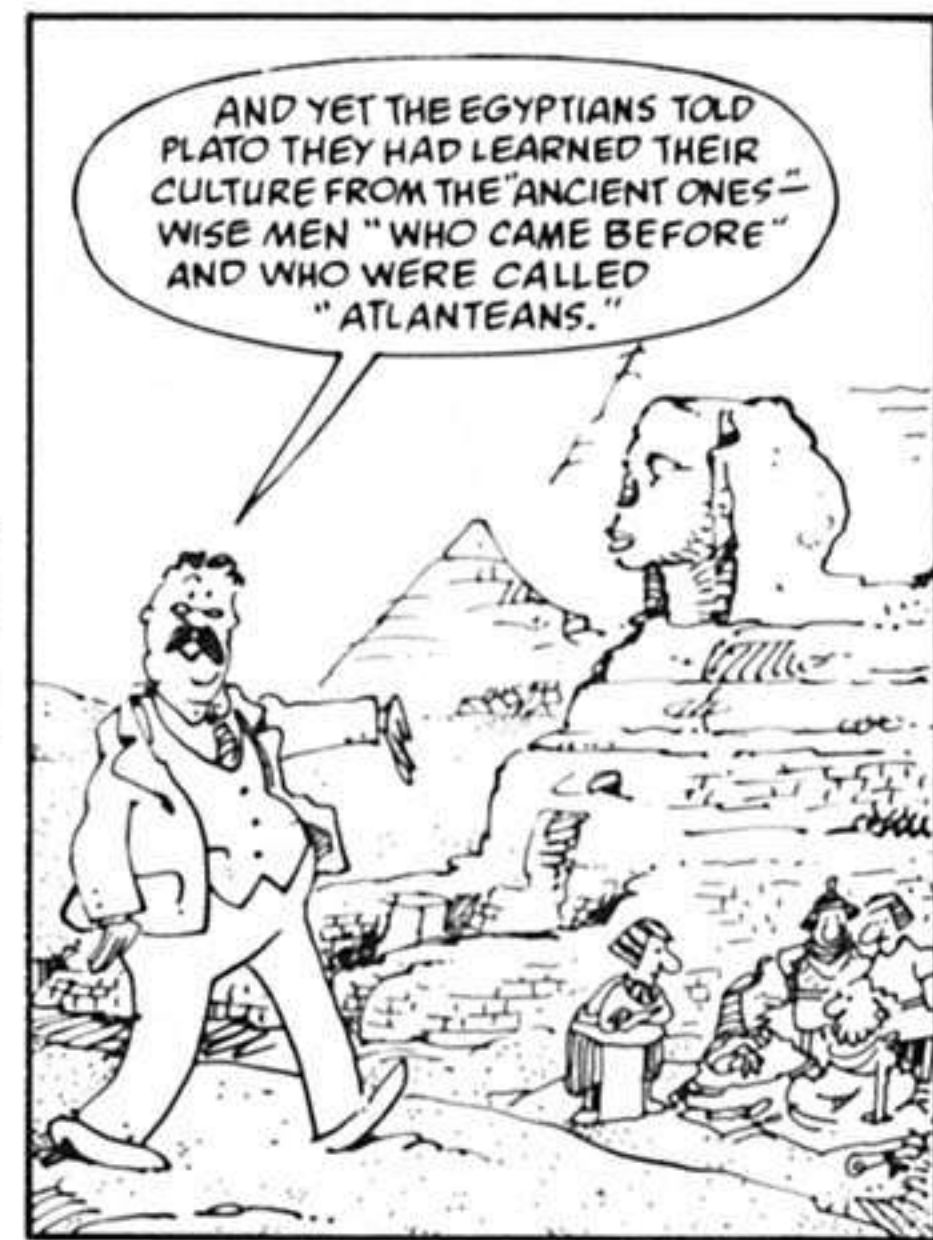
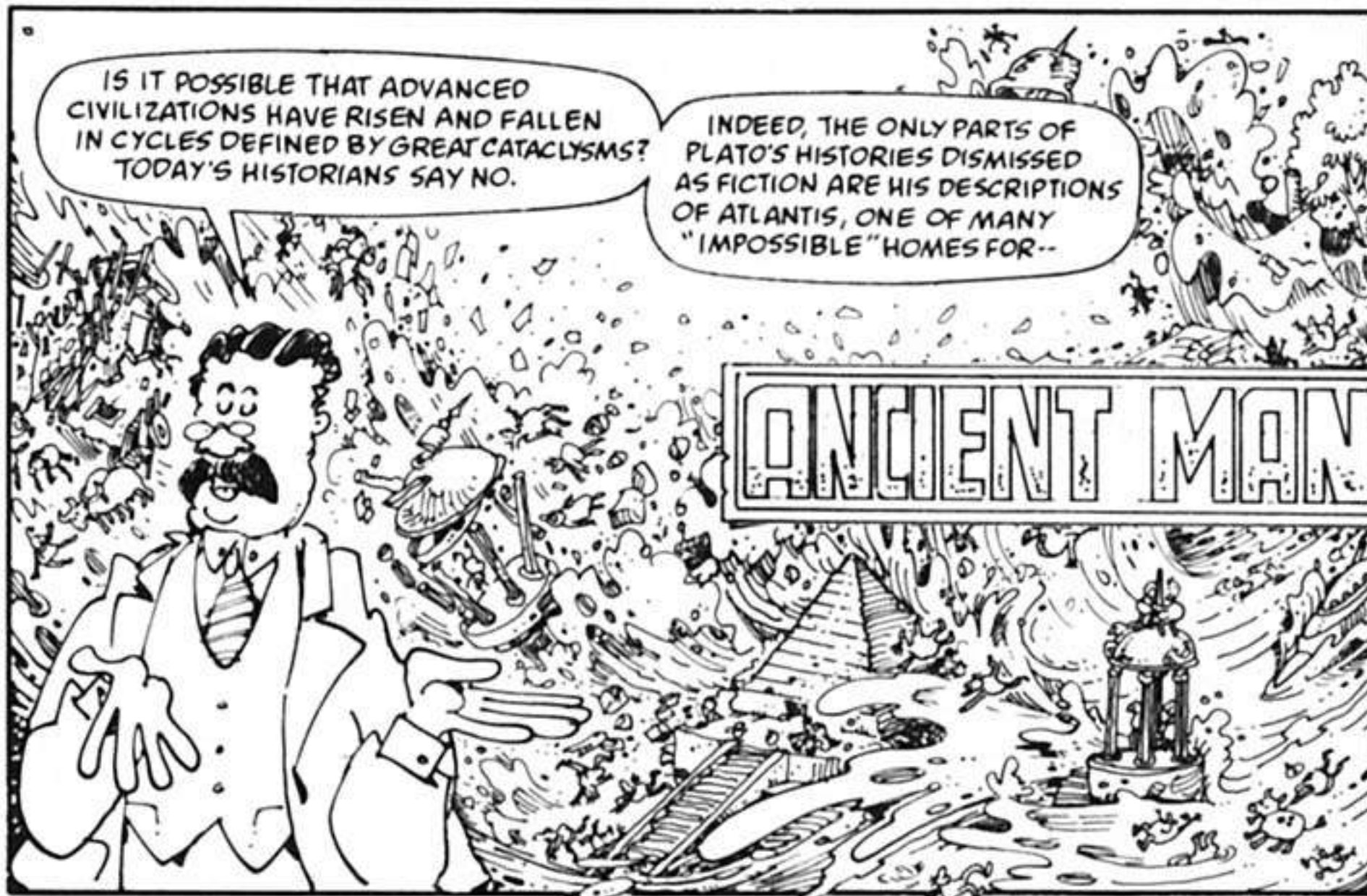


KNIGHT'S "SCIENTIFIC" GROUNDING OF THE SUPER-SARGASSO SEA WAS ENTIRELY SERIOUS, EVEN THOUGH THE ORIGINAL THEORY MAY HAVE BEEN INTENDED TO MERELY --

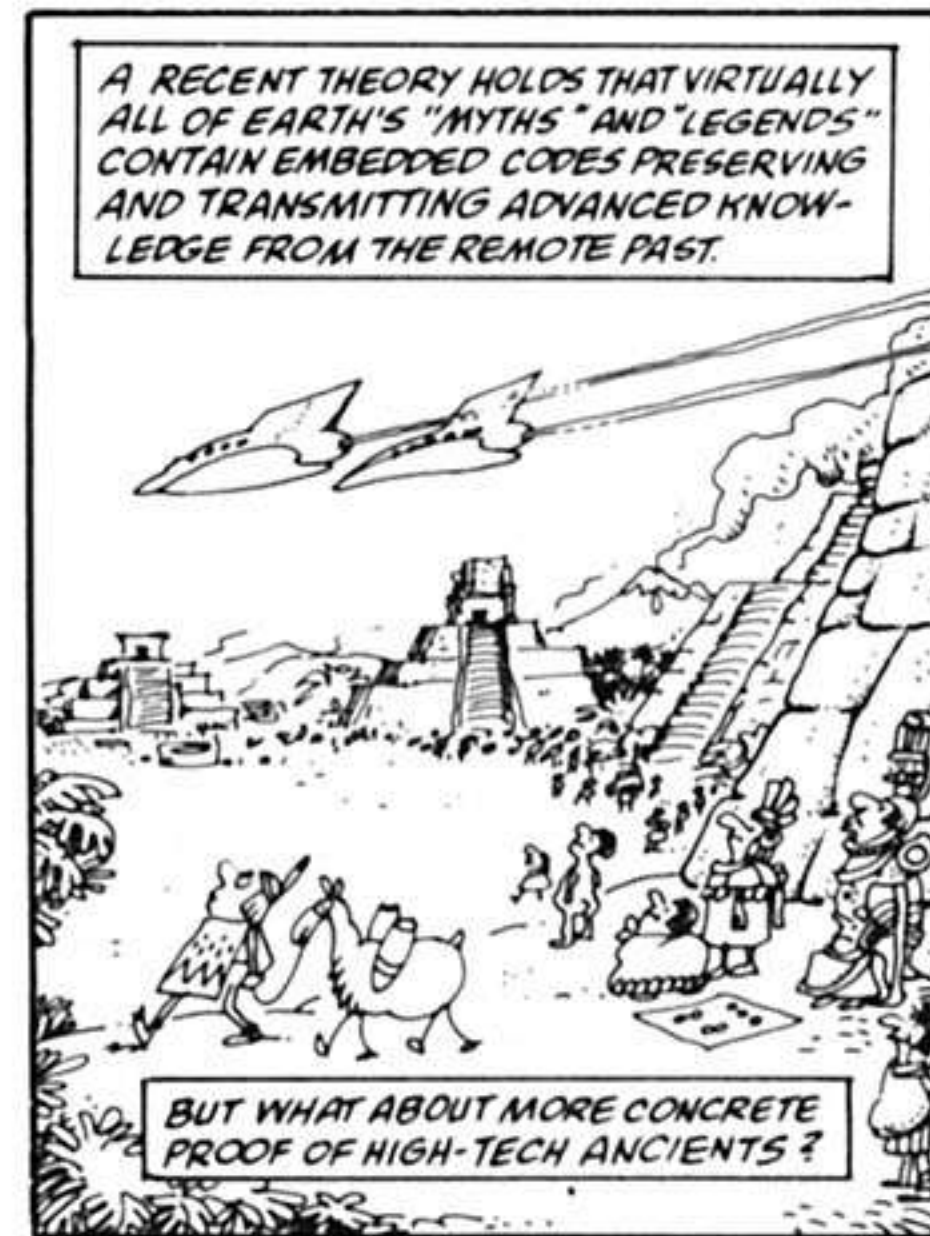
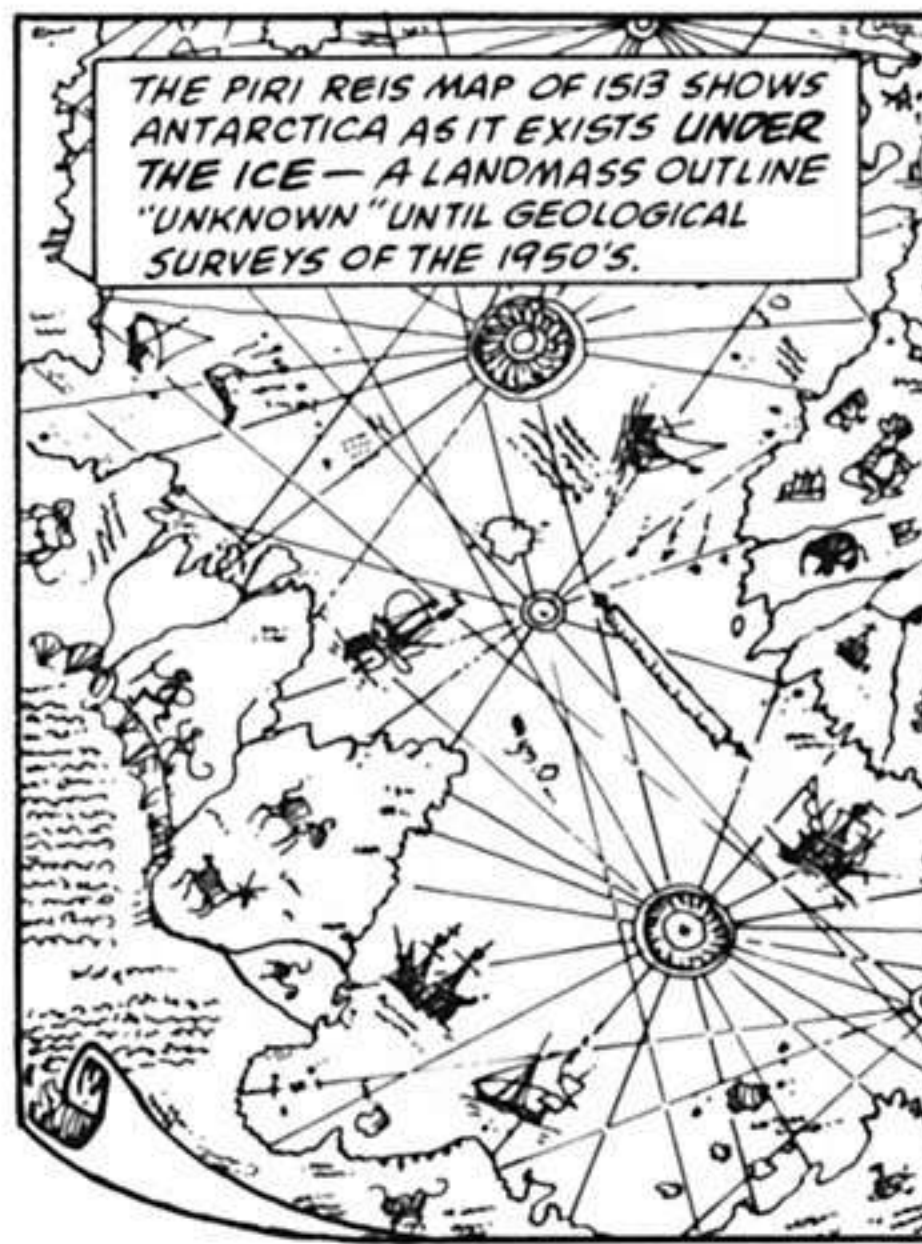
RIB IT!



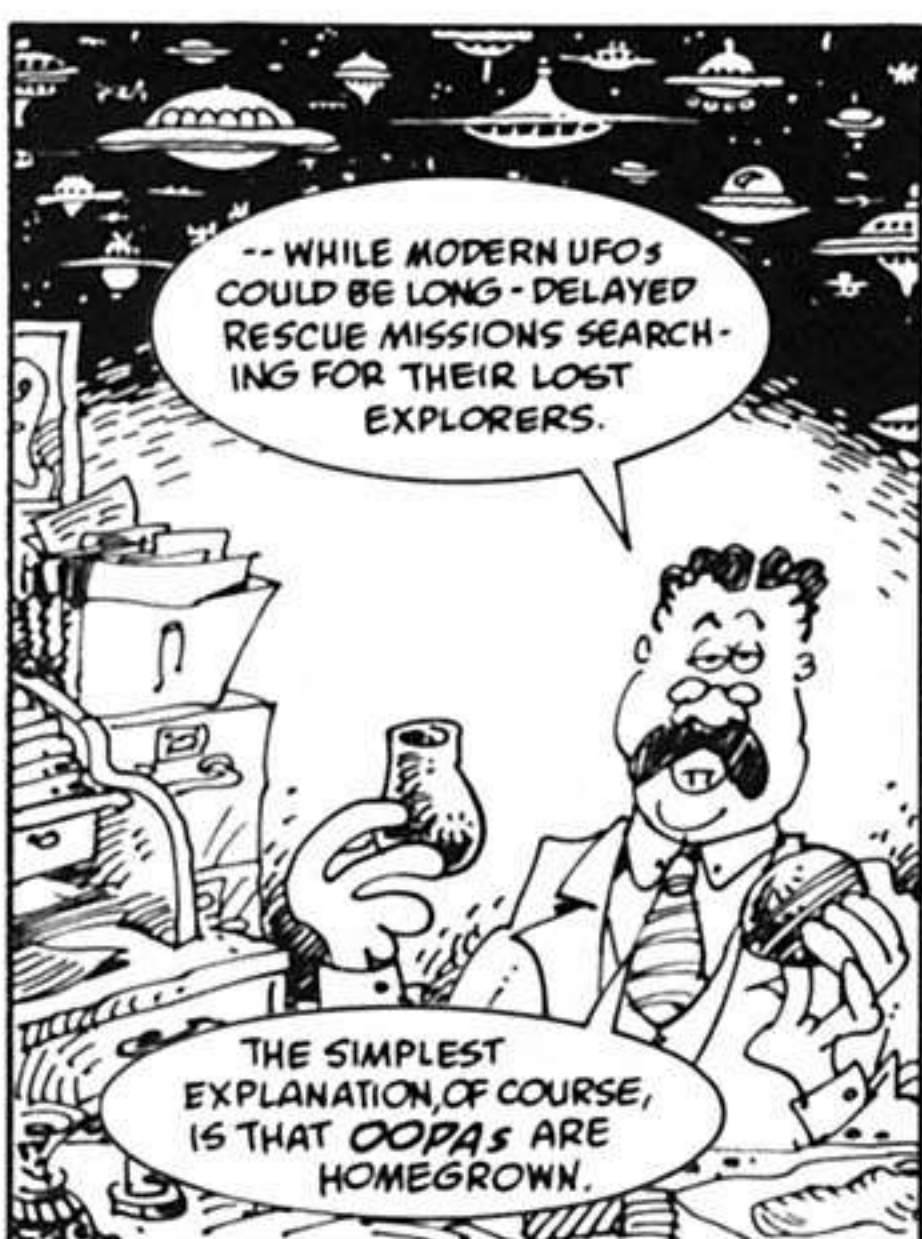
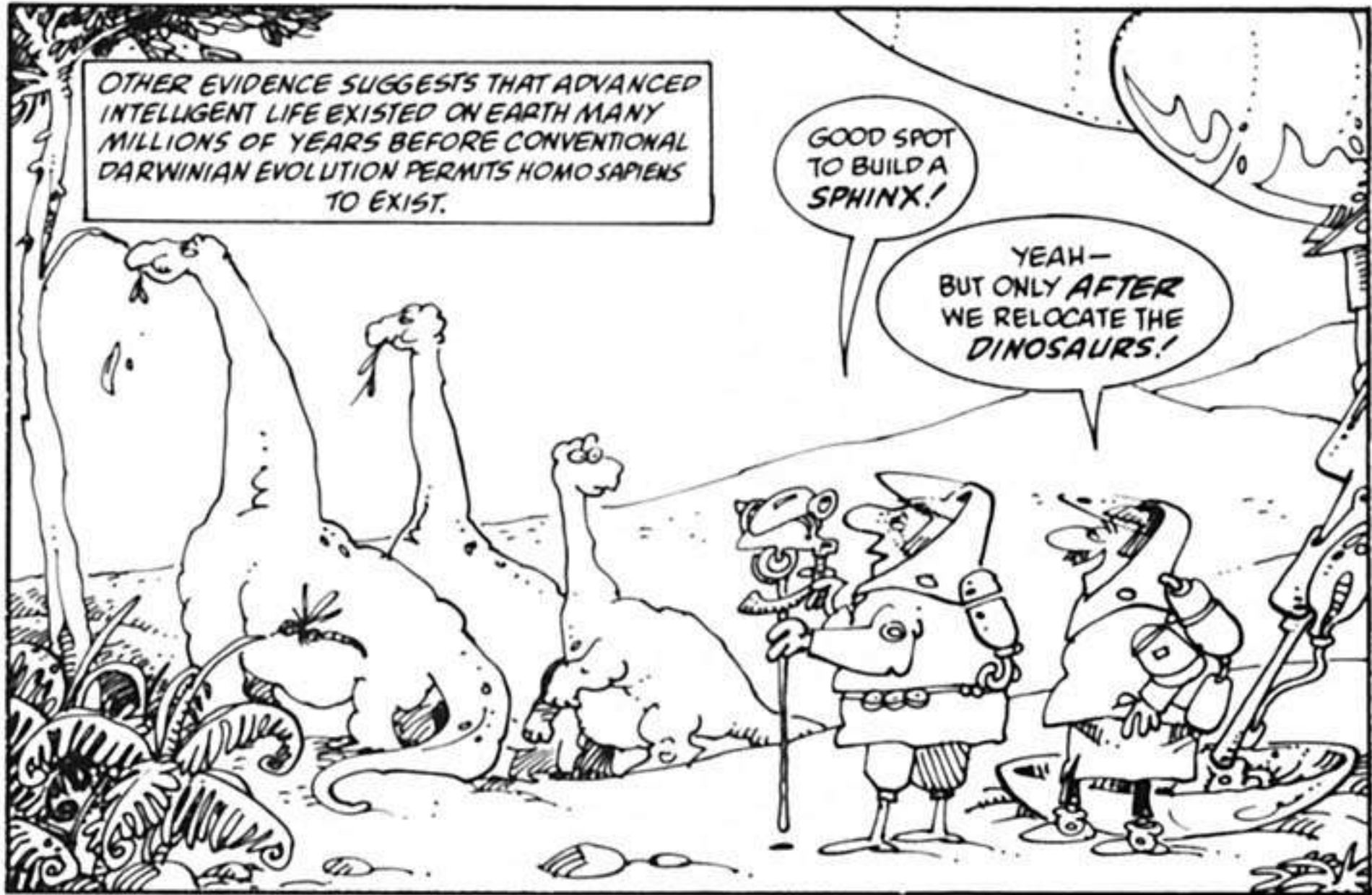


















# AS ABOVE

IF THE MOON'S GRAVITY CREATES THE TIDES OF EARTH'S OCEANS — AND IT DOES — CAN MORE DISTANT CELESTIAL BODIES AFFECT THE EARTH, AND EVEN **US**?



# SO BELOW

WHEN THE ANCIENTS FIRST STUDIED THE HEAVENS, THEY FOUND CORRELATIONS WITH WHAT WAS HAPPENING ON EARTH — CHANGING SEASONS, FLOODING DELTAS, THE LENGTHS OF DAY AND NIGHT, AND SO ON.



FROM THE ZOHAR, TRANSLATED BY ISAAC MEYER: "ALL THAT WHICH IS FOUND UPON THE SURFACE OF THE EARTH HAS ITS SPIRITUAL COUNTERPART ALSO TO BE FOUND ON HIGH--"



"--AND THERE DOES NOT EXIST THE SMALLEST THING IN THIS WORLD WHICH IS NOT ATTACHED TO SOMETHING ON HIGH, AND IS NOT FOUND IN DEPENDENCE ON IT."

THUS SEEING EARTH CONDITIONS AS A "REFLECTION" OF THE CHANGING NIGHT SKY, THE ANCIENTS JUMPED TO A CAUSE-AND-EFFECT CONCLUSION, ASSUMING THE HEAVENS **CREATED** OR AT LEAST INFLUENCED CHANGES ON EARTH.



THE HEAVENS WERE, AFTER ALL, THE HOMES OF THE GODS — AND THEY CREATED EVERYTHING.

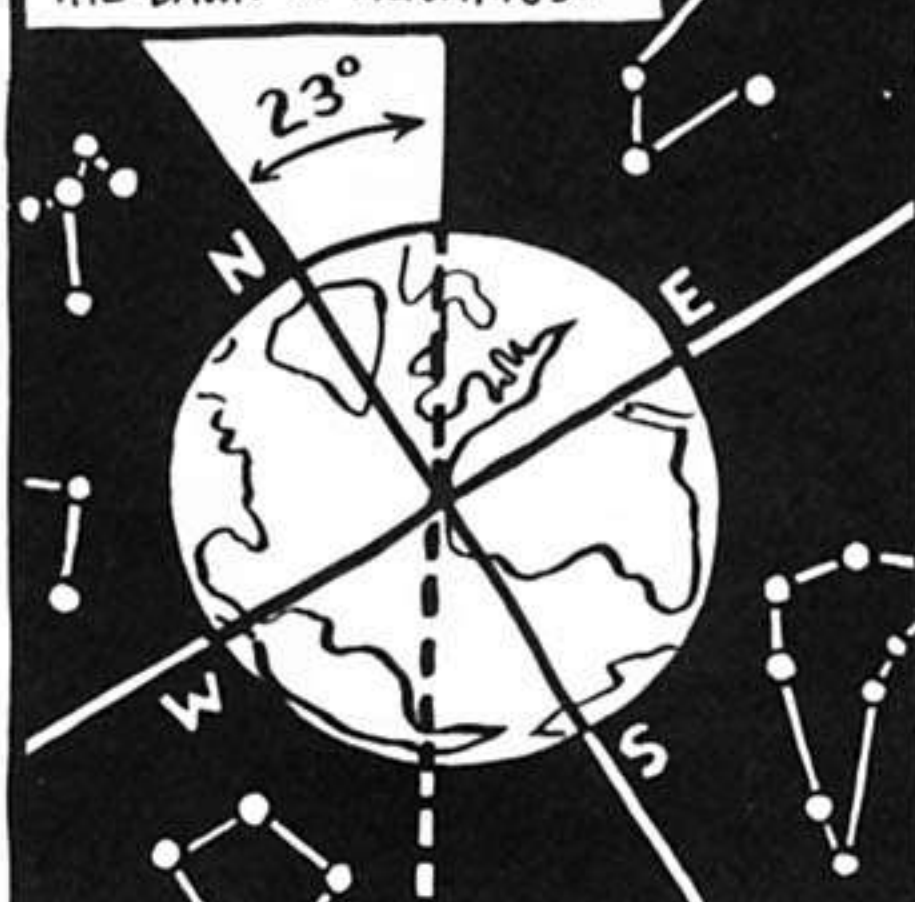
THIS HEAVENLY INFLUENCE WAS EXTENDED TO INDIVIDUALS WHEN STAR CONSTELLATIONS BECAME THE SIGNS OF THE ZODIAC — WHOSE POSITIONS AT A PERSON'S BIRTH DICTATED HIS FUTURE AND EVEN HIS BASIC NATURE.



THE BELIEF WAS NO DOUBT TAKEN TO EXTREMES WHEN LINKS WERE DRAWN BETWEEN ZODIAC SIGNS AND HUMAN BODY PARTS — BUT **CAN** OVERALL DESTINY BE "WRIT IN THE STARS?"

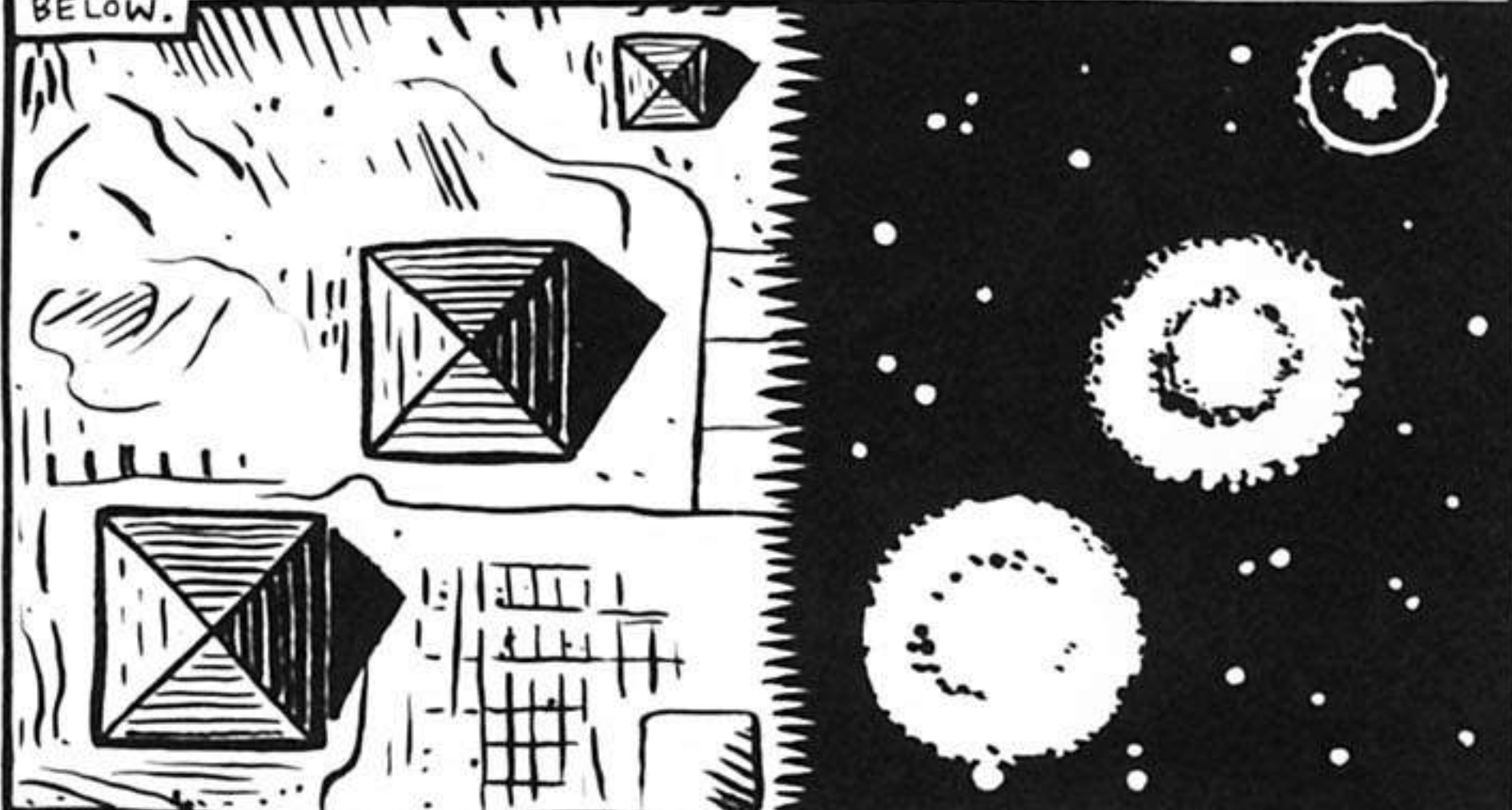


THE 23-DEGREE TILT OF EARTH'S AXIS ACCOUNTS NOT JUST FOR THE SEASONS BUT ALSO FOR THE SHIFTING AGES OF THE ZODIAC, MOVING US RIGHT NOW THROUGH THE END OF THE AGE OF PISCES TOWARD THE DAWN OF AQUARIUS.





FROM ABOVE, TWO OF GIZA'S THREE PYRAMIDS ARE PERFECTLY ALIGNED, YET THE THIRD IS SLIGHTLY OFFSET—JUST LIKE THE THREE STARS IN ORION'S BELT SEEN FROM BELOW.



(TO THE ANCIENT EGYPTIANS, ORION WAS KNOWN AS "OSIRIS.")

AND WHEN THE CONSTELLATION OF ORION/OSIRIS WAS DIRECTLY ABOVE THE GREAT PYRAMID 12,500 YEARS AGO--



--THE ENIGMATIC GAZE OF THE LION-BODIED SPHINX WAS PERFECTLY ALIGNED WITH THE CONSTELLATION OF LEO THE LION—INDICATING TRULY ADVANCED AND ANCIENT KNOWLEDGE OF BOTH ASTROLOGY AND ASTRONOMY.



BUT WHILE WIDESPREAD BELIEF IN ASTROLOGY EXISTS EVEN TODAY, MODERN SCIENTISTS—ESPECIALLY ASTRONOMERS—ARE, WELL, "ABOVE" SUCH QUAIN NOTIONS.



INDEED, FRENCH STATISTICIAN MICHEL GAUQUELIN SET OUT IN 1950 TO PROVE THAT THE BIRTH-POSITIONS OF THE STARS AND PLANETS EXERT NO INFLUENCE WHATSOEVER ON ONE'S FUTURE DEVELOPMENT.



HIS OWN STATISTICS, HOWEVER, PROVED HIM WRONG—WITH FIVE MILLION TO ONE ODDS AGAINST PURE CHANCE, FOR INSTANCE, SHOWING THAT GREAT SOLDIERS TENDED TO HAVE THE WAR GOD MARS ASCENDANT IN THEIR HOROSCOPES.



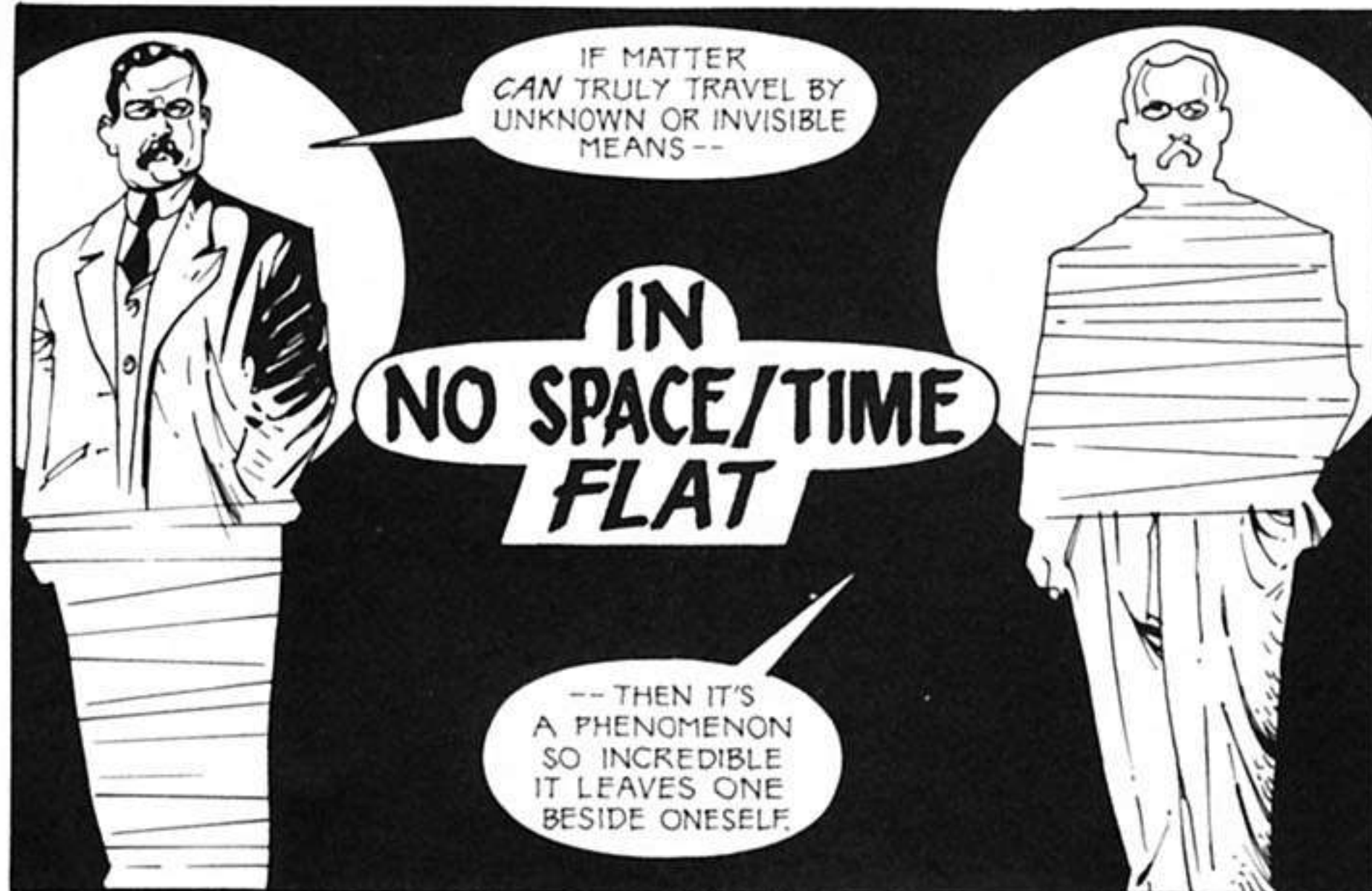
SO ARE WE SOMEHOW LINKED TO THE SUN AND MOON AND STARS? IS THERE GOOD REASON WHY ANCIENT MYSTICS AND '60S HIPPIES ACHIEVED "COSMIC" ALTERED STATES OF BEING "ONE WITH THE UNIVERSE"?



WHO KNOWS? BUT JUST AS ALCHEMY LED TO CHEMISTRY, ASTROLOGY BEGAT ASTRONOMY, SO MODERN SCIENTISTS SNEERING AT "ANCIENT WISDOM" ARE ALSO DISRESPECTING THEIR PARENTS—AND MAYBE, JUST MAYBE--











THE BEWILDERED SOLDIER WAS BROUGHT BEFORE THE MOST HOLY TRIBUNAL OF THE INQUISITION.

MANILA IS NINE THOSAND MILES AWAY! HOW DID YOU GET HERE?

I DON'T KNOW HOW I GOT HERE — I THOUGHT I WAS STILL THERE!



HOW LONG DID IT TAKE?

LESS TIME THAN IT TAKES A COCK TO CROW.

IMPOSSIBLE!



I WALKED TO THE PALACE GARRISON IN MANILA, ONLY TO ENCOUNTER MEN TELLING ME I WAS IN MEXICO—SO IT HAD TO HAVE HAPPENED DURING ONE OF MY STEPS.



WHY WERE YOU WALKING TO THE MANILA GARRISON?

TO REPORT FOR GUARD DUTY AFTER THE ASSASSINATION OF HIS EXCELLENCY DON GOMEZ PEREZ DASMARINAS, GOVERNOR OF THE PHILIPPINES.



LOCK HIM UP! THE MAN IS A LIAR, A DESERTER, AND UTTERLY MAD!

WHY DO YOU SAY HE IS MAD?



HE *MUST* BE! WE HAVE RECEIVED NO NEWS OF ANY SUCH ASSASSINATION OF THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNOR.

BUT, UNLIKE THE HAPLESS SOLDIER, NEWS TRAVELLED SLOWLY IN THOSE DAYS—



--AND, SOME TWO MONTHS LATER--

NEWS FROM MANILA! HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR OF THE PHILIPPINES WAS ASSASSINATED ON THE NIGHT OF OCTOBER TWENTY-FOURTH!

--WHICH WAS ONLY HOURS BEFORE THE APPEARANCE OF THE STRANGELY UNIFORMED SOLDIER WITH HIS "MAD" STORY.



FURTHER INVESTIGATION LOCATED WITNESSES IN MANILA WHO HAD SEEN THE SOLDIER ON THAT VERY NIGHT.

HE WAS HERE JUST AFTER THE ASSASSINATION!

I SAW HIM TOO!

LAST SEEN MARCHING OFF FOR GUARD DUTY AT THE PALACE GARRISON!



SO THE MOST HOLY TRIBUNAL OF THE INQUISITION IN MEXICO WAS FORCED TO THE ONLY "LOGICAL" CONCLUSION --

THE SOLDIER WAS MERELY OBEYING ORDERS AND... GOT LOST. SEND HIM BACK TO THE PHILIPPINES.

AWW... NO BLOOD AT ALL?

THERE SEEMED TO BE NO OTHER CHOICE.

HAS ANYTHING SIMILAR EVER HAPPENED ELSEWHERE? THE ANSWER IS, YES.

WAY NORTH OF THE BORDER, IN SOUTH BEND, INDIANA, TOM LERCH'S FARMHOUSE WAS THE SCENE OF A PARTY ON CHRISTMAS EVE, 1890.

OLLIE — GO FETCH SOME WATER FROM THE WELL, SON.

ALL RIGHT, MA — I'LL TAKE BOTH BUCKETS.

SINCE THAT WAS APPARENTLY THE LAST ANYONE EVER SAW OF 20-YEAR-OLD OLIVER LERCH, "TELEPORTATION" IS JUST ONE OF THE POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS TO HIS FATE --

-- "MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE" AND "ABDUCTION" BEING OTHERS.

ABDUCTION SEEMS TO GET THE NOD ON THE BASIS OF OLIVER'S SUBSEQUENT CRY, STRIDENT ENOUGH TO CUT THROUGH THE REVELERS' CHRISTMAS CAROL.

HELP! HELP! IT'S GOT ME!

OLIVER'S SINGLE SET OF TRACKS HALTED, WITH NO SIGN OF A STRUGGLE, HALFWAY TO THE WELL. ONE BUCKET, BUT NOT THE OTHER, LAY NEARBY.

THIS EVIDENCE, PLUS THE LOUD CRY FOR HELP, SEEMS TO INDICATE SOME BIZARRE AND ABRUPT "ABDUCTION VIA TELEPORTATION" — BUT THEN WE ARRIVE AT THE TRULY EERIE ASPECT OF THE CASE.



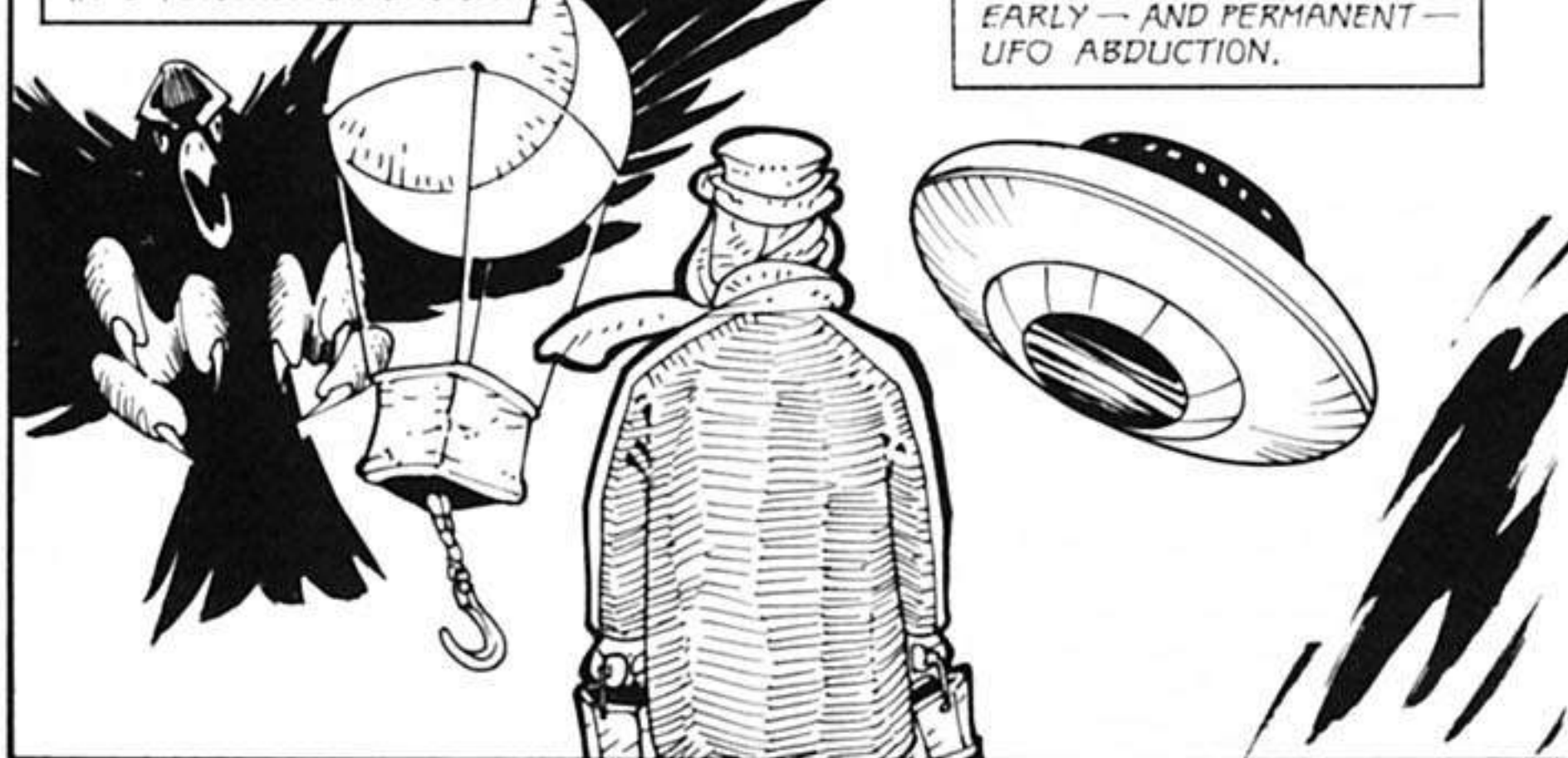
OLIVER'S VOICE RESUMED ITS PITIABLE PLEAS FOR A FULL FIVE MINUTES — LOUDER, THEN SOFTER, SCREAMING, THEN MOANING, AT TIMES FAR AWAY, THEN ALARMINGLY CLOSE, THEN DISTANT AGAIN — BUT ALWAYS SOUNDING FROM THE SKY —



NEIGHBORS WERE ROUSTED FOR AN INTENSIVE SEARCH — BUT NEITHER OLIVER NOR THE MISSING BUCKET WAS EVER FOUND.



WITH OLIVER LERCH THUS LEFT IN THE LURCH, CONTEMPORARY WRITERS PROPOSED SOME WEIRD THEORIES: PREDATION BY GIANT EAGLE, GRAPNEL-SNATCHING BY A PASSING HOT-AIR BALLOON, AND SLOW-MOTION SLIPPAGE INTO ANOTHER DIMENSION.



MORE RECENTLY, RESEARCHERS SUCH AS M.K. JESSUP HAVE SUGGESTED THAT OLIVER WAS THE SUBJECT OF AN EARLY — AND PERMANENT — UFO ABDUCTION.

OF COURSE, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT OLIVER BACKTRACKED THROUGH HIS OWN SNOW-PRINTS, HID AROUND A CORNER OF THE HOUSE UNTIL HIS FRIENDS AND FAMILY RUSHED OUT —



ANOTHER POSSIBLE EXPLANATION IS THE VORTEX THEORY. FOR EXAMPLE, IN DECEMBER 1873, MR. AND MRS. THOMAS B. CUMPSTON CHECKED INTO THE VICTORIA HOTEL IN BRISTOL, ENGLAND — AND WERE IMMEDIATELY DISTURBED BY STRANGE NOISES.



THE WEIRD SOUNDS RESUMED AT THREE IN THE MORNING, THIS TIME ACCOMPANIED BY A LITERAL "SINKING" FEELING — AS THE FLOOR OPENED UP TO SWALLOW THE BED.



THEIR SHOUTS ECHOING STRANGELY, THE CUMPSTONS BARELY ESCAPED BY LEAPING OUT OF THEIR ROOM — WHICH WAS LATER FOUND TO BE PERFECTLY NORMAL.



WRITER HAROLD T. WILKINS SUGGESTS THE POSSIBILITY OF A "VORTEX THROUGH SOLID MATTER."



HE SAID: "A PERSON DRAWN INTO SUCH A VORTEX MIGHT BE DEPOSITED THOUSANDS OF MILES FROM HIS STARTING POINT."

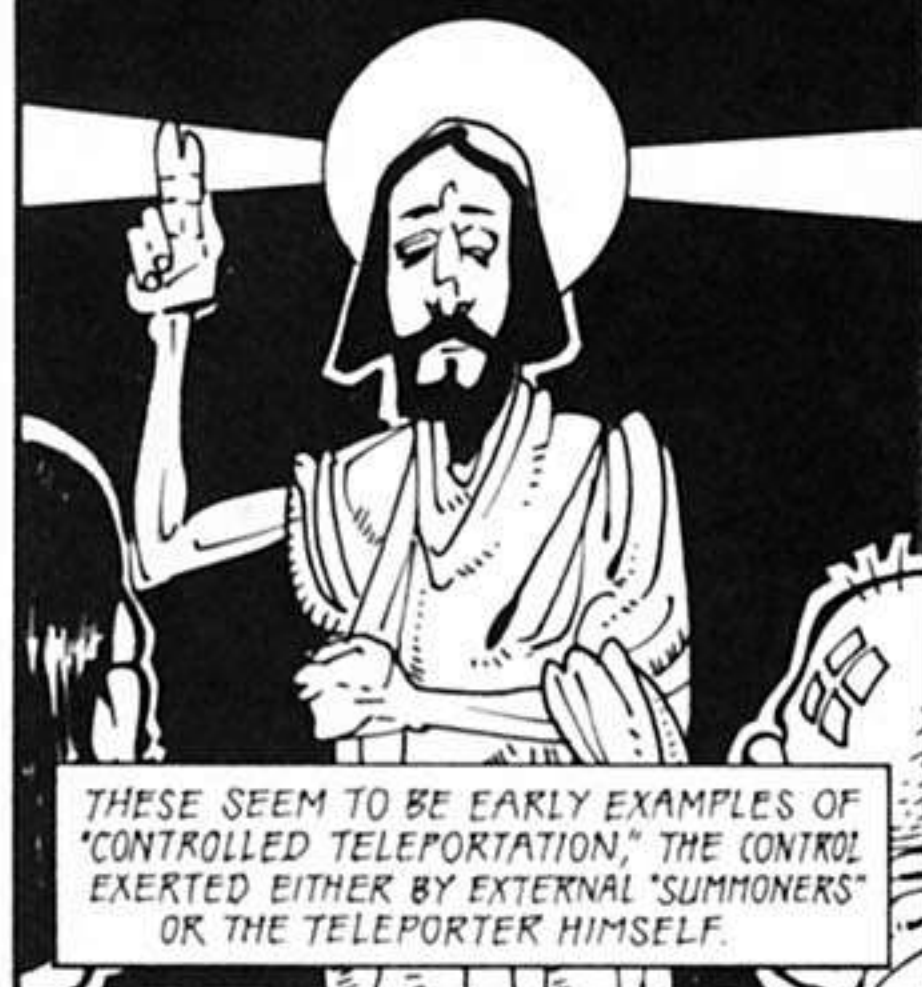
THE BIBLE SAYS "ELIJAH WENT UP BY A WHIRLWIND INTO HEAVEN."

YEEEEHAH!



OTHER BIBLICAL FIGURES, INSTANTLY TRANSPORTED OVER LONG DISTANCES, WERE "CARRIED BY ANGELS"--

--WHILE THE RESURRECTED JESUS SOMEHOW DISAPPEARED FROM HIS TOMB TO ABRUPTLY APPEAR BEFORE HIS APOSTLES.



THESE SEEM TO BE EARLY EXAMPLES OF "CONTROLLED TELEPORTATION," THE CONTROL EXERTED EITHER BY EXTERNAL "SUMMONERS" OR THE TELEPORTER HIMSELF.

ANY CONTROL OVER THE 1959 JAUNT TAKEN BY AN ARGENTINE BUSINESSMAN, HOWEVER, WAS DEFINITELY EXTERNAL.

MADRE DE DIOS!



STARTING HIS CAR OUTSIDE A HOTEL ON NATIONAL ROUTE 2, HE FOUND HIMSELF SUDDENLY ENVELOPED IN A WEIRD CLOUD.

THE NEXT THING HE KNEW, HE WAS ON AN UNFAMILIAR ROAD -- WITH HIS CAR NOWHERE IN SIGHT.

PLEASE, CAN YOU GIVE ME A RIDE?



ONLY A FEW MINUTES HAD PASSED ACCORDING TO HIS WRISTWATCH.

NEVERTHELESS, WHEN HE TOLD A PASSING TRUCK DRIVER WHERE HE HAD "LEFT" HIS CAR--

SORRY, SEÑOR, BUT THAT IS MORE THAN SIX HUNDRED MILES AWAY!



THE DAZED MAN ACCEPTED A LIFT TO THE NEAREST POLICE STATION. WHEN A LONG-DISTANCE CALL WAS PLACED TO THE HOTEL, HE WAS TOLD THAT HIS CAR WAS RIGHT OUTSIDE --



--ITS ENGINE STILL RUNNING!

ACCORDING TO FIVE WITNESSES, INCLUDING A TOKYO BANK MANAGER, A SIMILAR CLOUD ENGULFED ANOTHER CAR ON THE FUJISHIRO BYPASS IN NOVEMBER OF 1963. THE CAR IN THIS CASE, A LIMOUSINE, WAS MOVING--



WHAT THE--?!

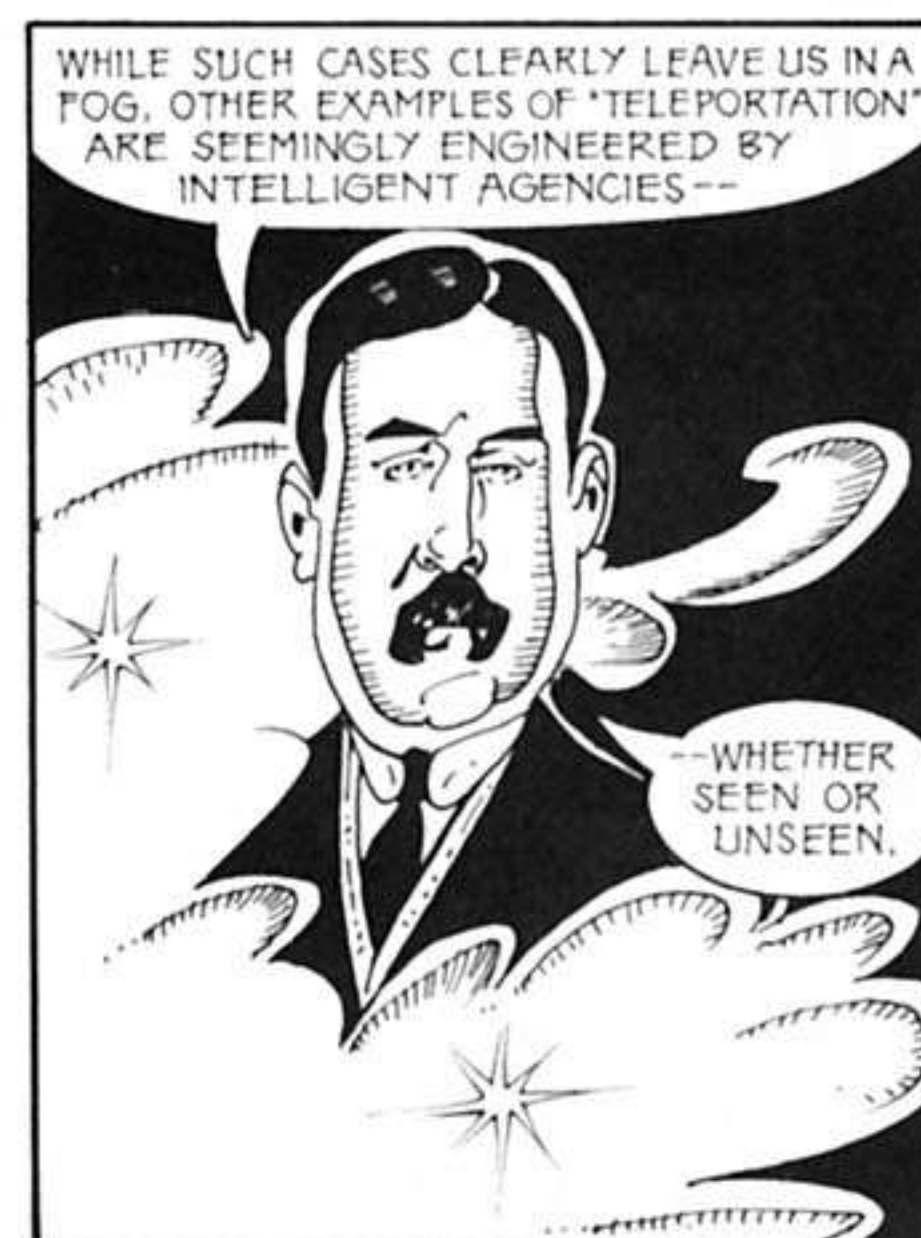
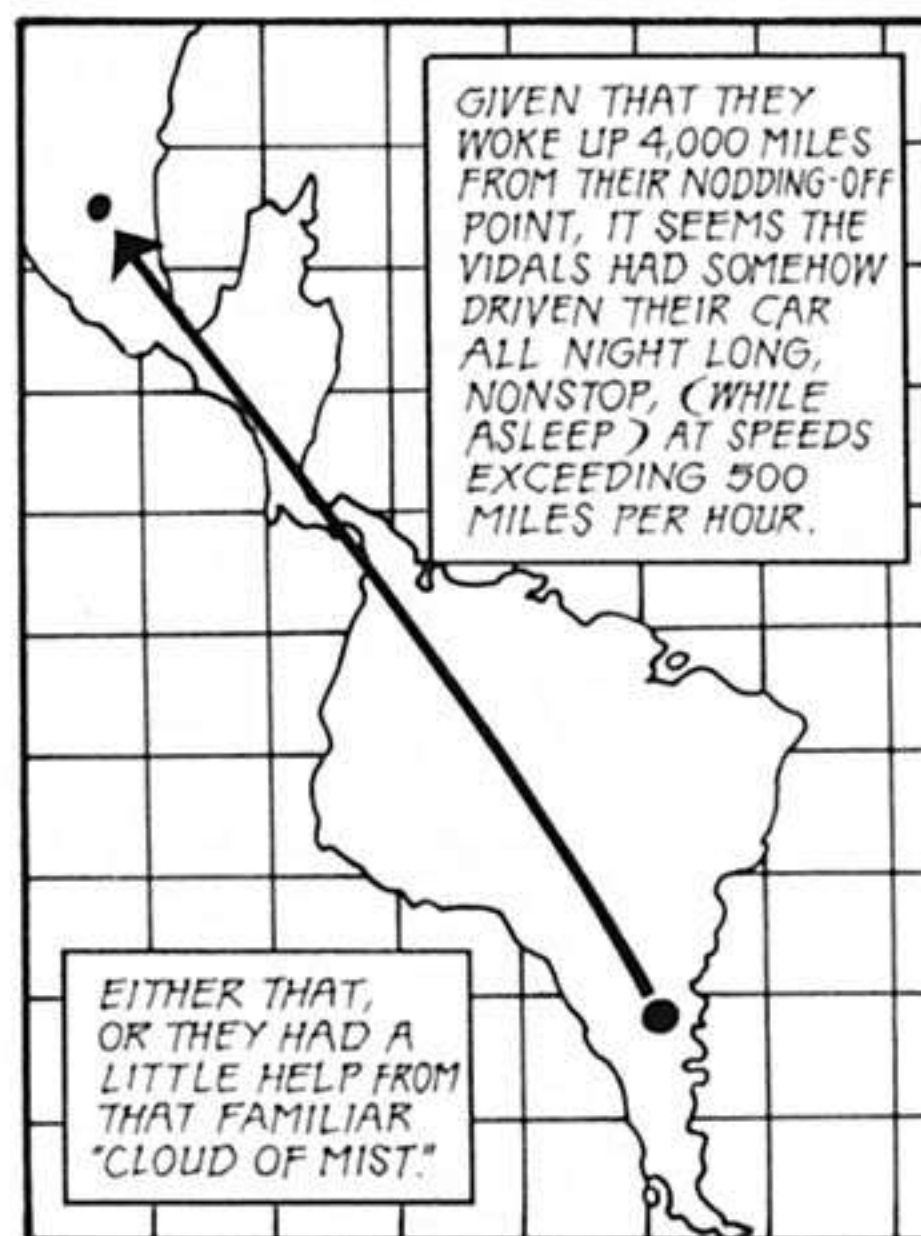
--AND WHEN THE MYSTERY CLOUD DISAPPEARED, THE DRIVER, PASSENGER, AND LIMO ITSELF HAD ALL VANISHED.



YIKES!

SINCE THE LIMO WAS NEVER IDENTIFIED, IT IS NOT KNOWN WHERE--IF ANYWHERE--IT EVER REAPPEARED.







IN THE "SEEN" CATEGORY ARE STRANGE LIGHTS OR UFOs, WHETHER ALIEN SPACECRAFT OR ENERGY FALLOUT FROM SOME UNKNOWN PHENOMENON.

MOOO!

(ABDUCTEES CLAIMING THEY'VE BEEN TELEPORTED THROUGH WALLS HAVE REPORTED UFOs CONCEALED IN "CLOUDS OF MIST.")

WILDEST OF ALL MAY BE THE PHYSICALLY POSSIBLE SCIENTIFIC EXPLANATION: MATTER CONVERTED TO ENERGY AND TRANSMITTED TO A DIFFERENT LOCATION FOR RECONVERSION--

SHIPPING ELEPHANT NOW!

RECEIVING ELEPHANT NOW!

--MUCH AS RADIO WAVES ARE SENT FROM TRANSMITTER TO RECEIVER

AND EVEN THOUGH THERE'S NEVER BEEN AN EXPLANATION WHICH ITSELF DIDN'T REQUIRE EXPLAINING, SCI-FI IS NEVER TOO SHY TO TRY.

BEAM ME DOWN, SCOTTY!

IF THERE EXISTS A FOURTH DIMENSION, WHETHER "TIME" OR ANOTHER ASPECT OF SPACE, CAN THINGS SLIP (OR GET SUCKED) INTO IT VIA "PORTALS" OR "WINDOWS"

--THEN POP BACK INTO OUR THREE-DIMENSIONAL REALITY AT A DIFFERENT TIME AND/OR PLACE?

GLP!

IN GEORGE LANGELAAN'S CAUTIONARY STORY, "THE FLY" (FILMED SEVERAL TIMES), A SCIENTIST ACCIDENTALLY SHARES HIS TELEPORT BOOTH WITH AN UNNOTICED TRAVELING COMPANION--TO THEIR MUTUALLY SCRAMBLED REGRET.

D'OH!

BUZZ-BUZZ!

HELP MEEEE!

INDEED, WHEN IT COMES TO INSTANTANEOUS TRANSPORT, TRUSTING TECHNOLOGY MAY NOT BE THE WISEST COURSE.

AFTER ALL, ONE COULD HARDLY TRAVEL WITH SAY, A SET OF GOLF CLUBS--LET ALONE A SUITCASE.



# CHAPTER TWO

## CLOSE ENCOUNTERS

Whether created by alien technologies so advanced they might as well be supernatural, or spawned by wilder forces which really *are* supernatural, the UFOs over our heads cast heavy shadows indeed. These anomalous aerial objects cannot fail to inspire wonder or fear (usually both). How we react to them may reveal the nature of our psyches and souls.

Nothing new, UFOs are in fact older than history and may have been here forever. The recent abduction epidemic and rumors of government-alien cover-ups, then, are but small pieces of the phenomenon's overall puzzle. Moreover, both puzzle pieces may be nothing but paranoia and false memories as a result of growing UFO awareness. And if this is how we respond to UFO reality, then there is arguably good reason for cover-ups and secrecy. Most humans simply can't handle UFOs. But *we* can, can't we?

Off we go, into the wild black and blue yonder...



# CHASSHHEHED QROEHEES

IF THE GOVERNMENT REALLY IS SUPPRESSING UFO REALITY, SKEPTICS ASK, THEN WHY HASN'T ANYONE LET THE COSMIC CAT OUT OF THE BAG?

ANSWER: THE CAT'S LOOSE, AND IT'S BEEN ON THE PROWL FOR A LONG TIME, AS WE'LL SOON SEE!



THE AMAZING PHENOMENON REPORTED IS SOMETHING REAL AND NOT VISIONARY OR FICTITIOUS.



GEN. NATHAN TWINING, CHIEF OF STAFF, U. S. AIR FORCE, IN HIS AIR MATÉRIEL COMMAND REPORT, 23 SEPTEMBER 1947.

THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICE OF THE 509th BOMBARDMENT GROUP AT ROSWELL ARMY AIR FIELD, NEW MEXICO, HAS COME INTO POSSESSION OF A CRASHED FLYING DISK.



LT. COL. WALTER HAUT, BASE PRESS OFFICER. (OFFICIAL PRESS RELEASE, 8 JULY 1947, LATER RETRACTED.)

THE WRECKAGE WAS STREWN OVER AN AREA THREE-QUARTERS OF A MILE LONG. WE REALLY COULDN'T FIGURE OUT WHAT IT WAS.



MAJOR JESSE MARCEL, U. S. ARMY INTELLIGENCE, ROSWELL, WHO CLAIMED THE RETRACTION OF HAUT'S PRESS RELEASE WAS PART OF A "COVER STORY."

I MUST INSIST UPON FULL ACCESS TO DISCS RECOVERED. THE ARMY GRABBED ONE AND WOULD NOT LET US HAVE IT FOR EVEN A CURSORY EXAMINATION.



HANDWRITTEN MEMO FROM FBI DIRECTOR J. EDGAR HOOVER, 15 JULY 1947 (ALTHOUGH HE MAY HAVE BEEN REFERRING TO A HOAXED DISC).

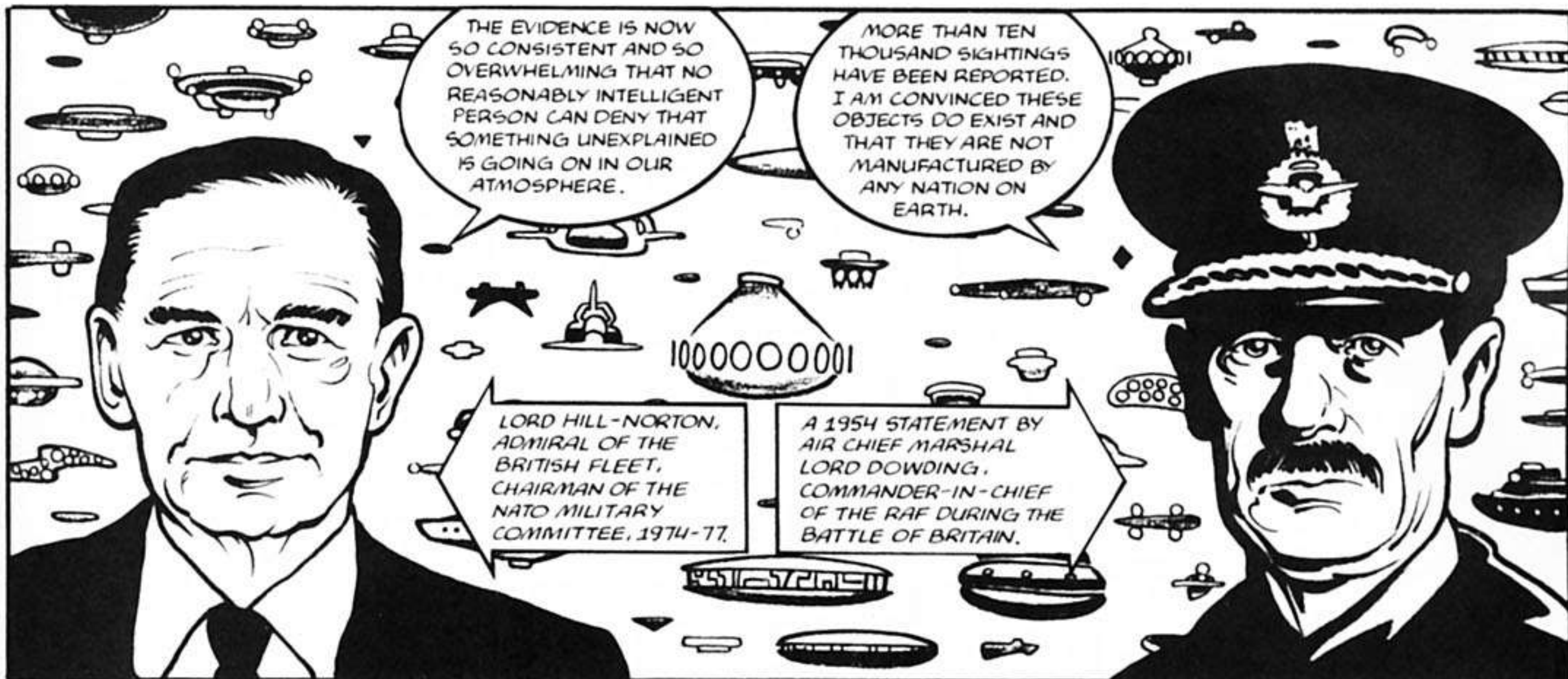
PILOTS HAVE REVEALED CASES WHEN A UFO WOULD FLY RIGHT OFF THEIR PLANE'S WING.

HIGHLY SECRET GOVERNMENT UFO INVESTIGATIONS ARE GOING ON THAT WE DON'T KNOW ABOUT.



SENATOR BARRY GOLDWATER, WHO FURTHER CLAIMS HE WAS DENIED ACCESS TO "THE BLUE ROOM" AT WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, WHERE UFO ARTIFACTS ARE ALLEGEDLY STORED UNDER EXTREMELY TIGHT SECURITY.







FOR THE LAST SIX MONTHS WE HAVE BEEN WORKING WITH A CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE INVESTIGATING OFFICIAL SECRECY CONCERNING PROOF THAT UFOs ARE REAL MACHINES UNDER INTELLIGENT CONTROL.



MAJOR DONALD KEYHOE DURING A LIVE CBS BROADCAST, 1958. ALTHOUGH HIS AUDIO WAS CUT OFF MID-STATEMENT FOR "REASONS OF NATIONAL SECURITY."

BEHIND THE SCENES HIGH-RANKING AIR FORCE OFFICERS ARE SOBERLY CONCERNED, BUT THROUGH OFFICIAL SECRECY AND RIDICULE, CITIZENS ARE LED TO BELIEVE UFOs ARE NONSENSE.



REAR ADMIRAL ROSCOE HILLENKOETTER, DIRECTOR OF CIA, 1947-50.

UFOs DO EXIST, ARE VERY REAL, AND ARE SPACESHIPS FROM ANOTHER OR MORE THAN ONE OTHER SOLAR SYSTEM.



PROFESSOR HERMANN OBERTH, FORMER GERMAN ROCKET SCIENTIST AND "FATHER OF AMERICAN SPACE TRAVEL."

IT SEEMED TO MOVE TOWARD US, THEN PARTLY AWAY, THEN RETURN, THEN DEPART. IT WAS BLUISH, REDDISH, AND LUMINOUS.



UFO SIGHTING REPORT, 1969, BY THEN-GOVERNOR JIMMY CARTER.

THE PRESIDENT SAID THAT IF THE EARTH FACED AN INVASION BY EXTRATERRESTRIALS, THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION WOULD JOIN FORCES TO REPEL IT.

YEP, THAT'S WHAT I SAID—AT LEAST THREE TIMES!



MIKHAIL GORBACHEV AND UFO-WITNESS RONALD REAGAN AT THE GENEVA SUMMIT, 1985.

WE DEAL NOW NOT WITH THINGS OF THIS WORLD ALONE, BUT WITH ULTIMATE CONFLICT BETWEEN A UNITED HUMAN RACE AND THE SINISTER FORCES OF SOME OTHER GALAXY.

GEN. DOUGLAS MACARTHUR, IN HIS ADDRESS TO THE MILITARY ACADEMY AT WEST POINT, 1962.



WITH ALL THESE LIGHTS AND SOUNDS AND FORMS, ALL THESE SIGHTINGS AND OFFICIAL STATEMENTS, WHAT'S REALLY GOING ON WITH UFOs?

YOU MIGHT SAY THAT SOMEONE IS USING THE EARTH TO GO FISHING!







# THE NEW GUINEA SYNCHRONICITY



LASTING MORE THAN FOUR HOURS, THE SPECTACULAR MULTIPLE-WITNESS SIGHTING ENDED ONLY WHEN THE OBJECTS DRIFTED OFF AND DISAPPEARED INTO THE OVERCAST SKY.

OTHERS QUICKLY CAME RUNNING.



IN ALL, 38 WITNESSES SIGNED SWORN TESTIMONY THAT WHEN REVEREND GILL RAISED AN ARM TO WAVE, ONE OF THE UFO HUMANOIDS WAVED RIGHT BACK!

SOON, EVERYONE ON THE GROUND WAS SHOUTING AND WAVING, AND ALTHOUGH NO SOUND EVER CAME FROM THE UFO, ALL FOUR HUMANOIDS RETURNED THE WAVES.

REVEREND GILL LATER WROTE: "TWO SMALLER UFOs WERE SEEN AT THE SAME TIME. ON THE LARGE ONE, TWO OF THE FIGURES SEEMED TO BE DOING SOMETHING IN THE CENTER OF THE DECK, ADJUSTING OR SETTING UP SOMETHING."

WHEN REVEREND GILL TRIED "SIGNALLING WITH A TORCH" (A FLASHLIGHT), THE UFO RESPONDED BY SWINGING BACK AND FORTH IN A "PENDULUM MOTION."

AT 6:30, GILL AND THE OTHERS WENT OFF TO DINNER—AND WHEN THEY RETURNED A HALF HOUR LATER, THE UFO WAS JUST A DISTANT SPECK.

SKEPTICS FOUND IT INCREDIBLE THAT DINNER COULD BE MORE IMPORTANT THAN A FLYING SAUCER, TO WHICH GILL RESPONDED: "WE WERE A BIT FED UP THAT THEY WOULDN'T COME DOWN AFTER ALL THE WAVING."

AT 10:40 PM, GILL WAS LITERALLY SHAKEN OUT OF BED BY A TREMENDOUS EXPLOSION RIGHT OUTSIDE THE MISSION—

--ALTHOUGH "NO LIGHTNING WAS SEEN."

TO THE SAME FRIEND HE'D WRITTEN THE NIGHT BEFORE, GILL NOW WROTE: "YESTERDAY I EXPRESSED OPINIONS RE: THE UFOs. NOW, I HAVE CHANGED MY VIEWS. THERE IS NO DOUBT WHATSOEVER THAT UFOs ARE HANDLED BY BEINGS OF SOME KIND."

GILL DESCRIBED HIS ENCOUNTER AS "ABSOLUTELY BREATHTAKING"—AND THIS TIME, INSTEAD OF "DOUBTING WILLIAM," HE SIGNED OFF

CHEERS,  
CONVINCED BILL

AND SOMEWHERE, NO DOUBT, THE COSMIC TRICKSTER SNICKERED.



WITHOUT  
EVEN COMMENTING ON  
GHOST PORTRAITS, VAGUE  
OR HAZY BY DEFINITION,  
WE CAN UNCONDITIONALLY  
GUARANTEE--

# The Best PHOTOS

Are  
Always

**BLURRY**



...BLURRY...  
...BLURRY...  
...BLURRY...

--AND THE  
"EVEN BETTER"  
PHOTOS ARE  
(ALMOST)  
ALWAYS  
FAKES.



LET'S  
LOOK AT A  
FEW EXAMPLES  
OF EACH.

"IF THE MCMINNVILLE, OREGON PHOTOS  
OF MAY 11, 1950 ARE WIDELY REGARDED  
AS THE BEST EARLY EVIDENCE FOR  
FLYING SAUCER REALITY, WHY ARE  
THEY SO TEASINGLY BLURRY?"



WHY DOES THE 1952 BARRA DE TIJUCA  
"DAYLIGHT DISC" REMAIN SO FRUSTRAT-  
INGLY INCONCLUSIVE--EVEN WHEN  
ENHANCED?



WERE ITS  
ET PILOTS  
SIMPLY TOO  
SECRETIVE OR  
SHY TO PROPERLY  
POSE?



AND WHAT'S WITH THIS MID-50s  
OFFICIAL AIR FORCE SHOT OF THE  
"PHOENIX, ARIZONA CRESCENT"?



WAS IT AN OBJECT  
FROM ANOTHER DIMENSION  
THAT COULD NOT BE CLEARLY  
PHOTOGRAPHED IN OUR REALITY?

THIS 1957 SHOT OF A B-47 WAS  
TAKEN BY A PILOT WHO DIDN'T SEE  
THE "SURVEILLANCE UFO" UNTIL  
THE PHOTO WAS DEVELOPED--  
A HUGE EMBARRASSMENT  
FOR THE AIR FORCE.



THOUGH CLEAR WHEN BLOWN UP, THE  
UFO IMAGE REMAINS JUST VAGUE ENOUGH  
TO BE EXPLAINED AWAY AS A LENS OR FILM FLAW.





"THE BRAZILIAN NAVY PHOTOGRAPHED THIS SATURN-SHAPED OBJECT NEAR TRINDADE ISLAND IN 1958."



IS IT A SUNDG OR SOME OTHER MIRAGE WHICH ONLY LOOKS SOLID ON FILM?



"THE ZACK HAMILTON 'BIGFOOT' PHOTO IS A CLASSIC BLURRY SHOT."

"BUT FOR ALL WE KNOW, IT COULD BE A FLUGITIVE CHIMP ESCAPED FROM SOME ZOO."



THE 1967 ROGER PATTERSON BLUFF CREEK FILM REMAINS THE BEST EVIDENCE FOR BIGFOOT'S ELUSIVE EXISTENCE.

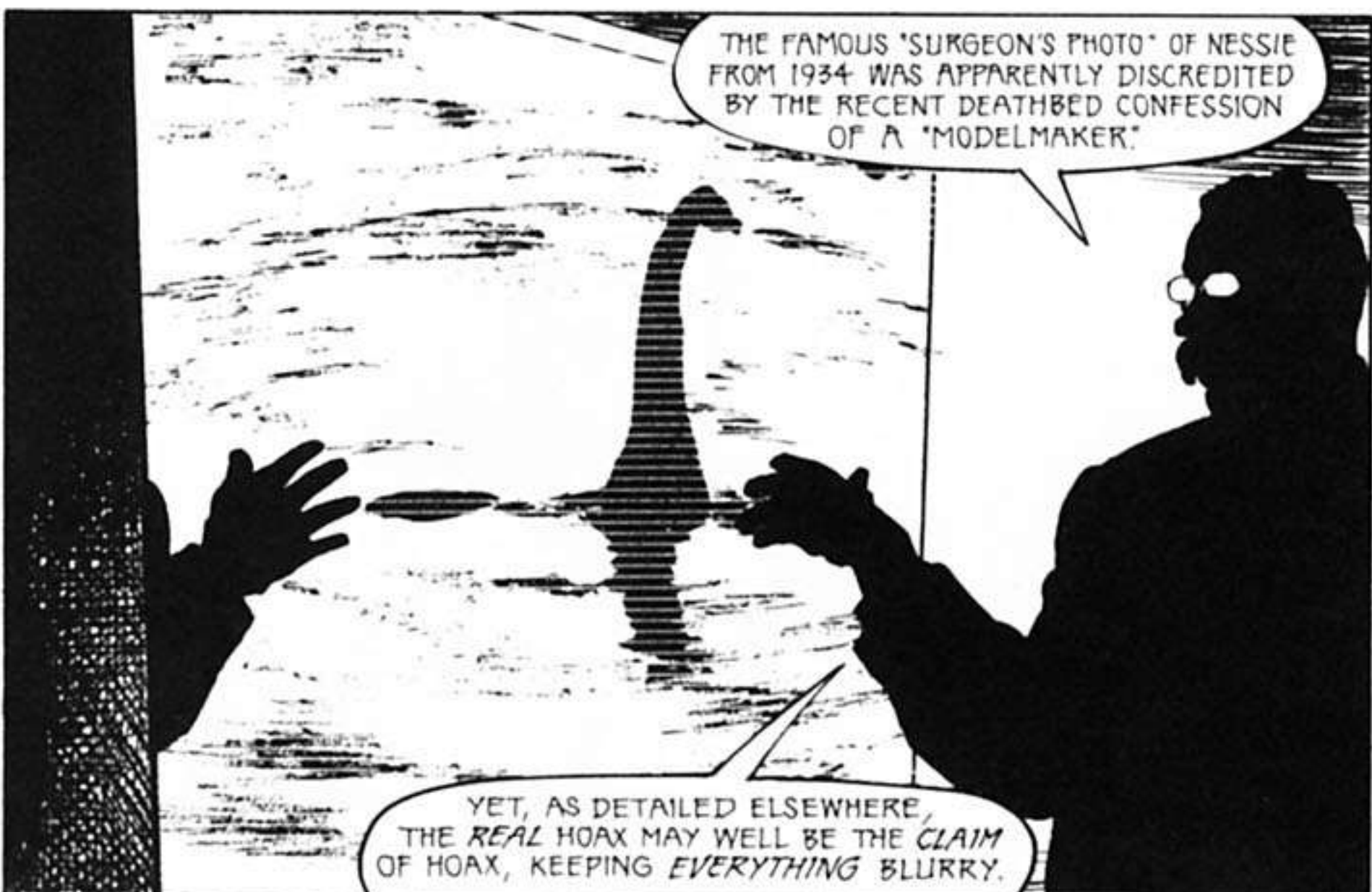
IT'S BEEN CALLED "SHOCKINGLY CONVINCING," BUT IT'S STILL SHORT OF IRREFUTABLE PROOF.



"THIS 1976 'NESSIE' PHOTO IS CLEAR--"



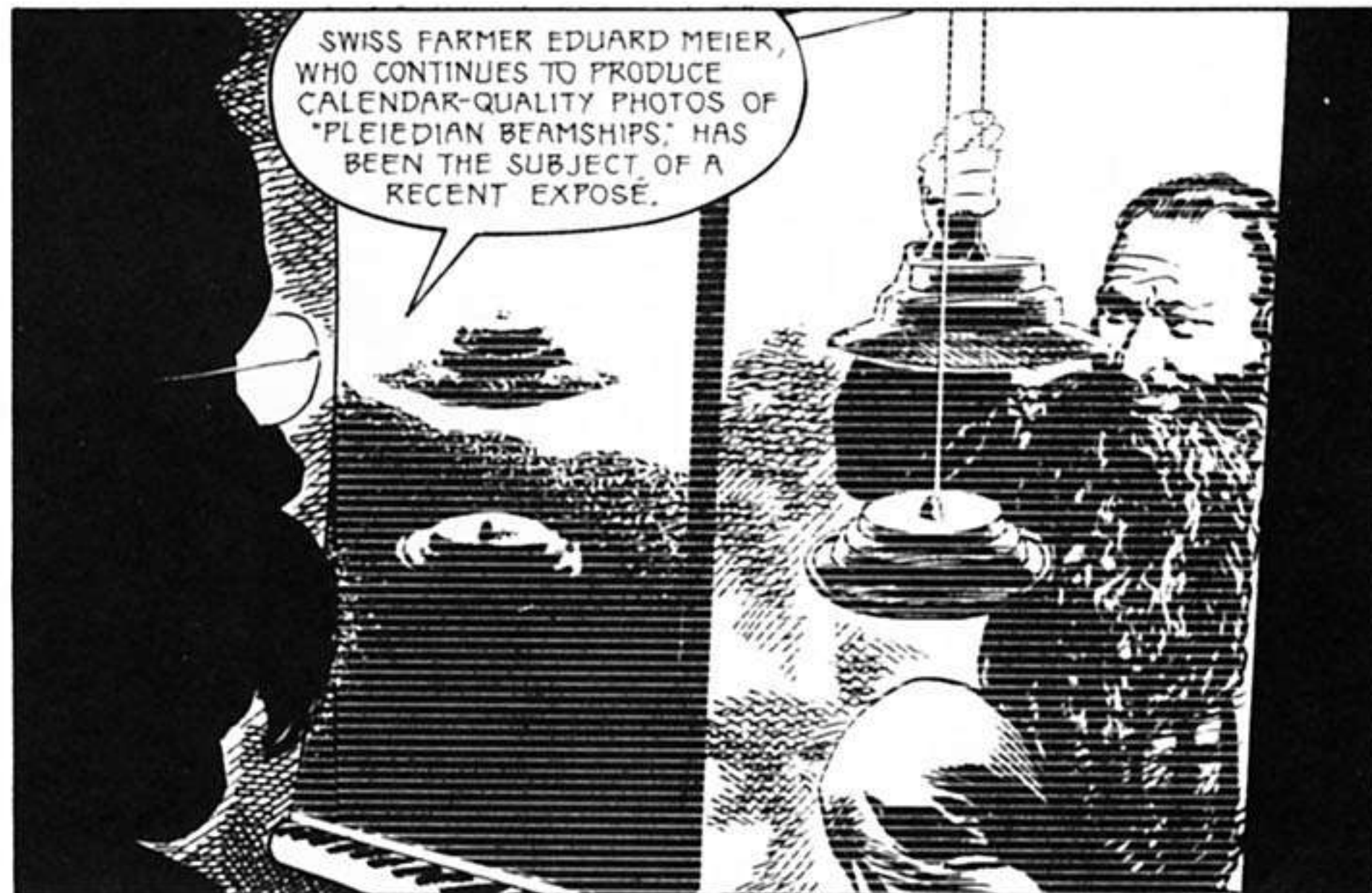
--CLEARLY SIMILAR TO BRONTOSAURUS MODELS SOLD IN MUSEUM GIFT SHOPS,?



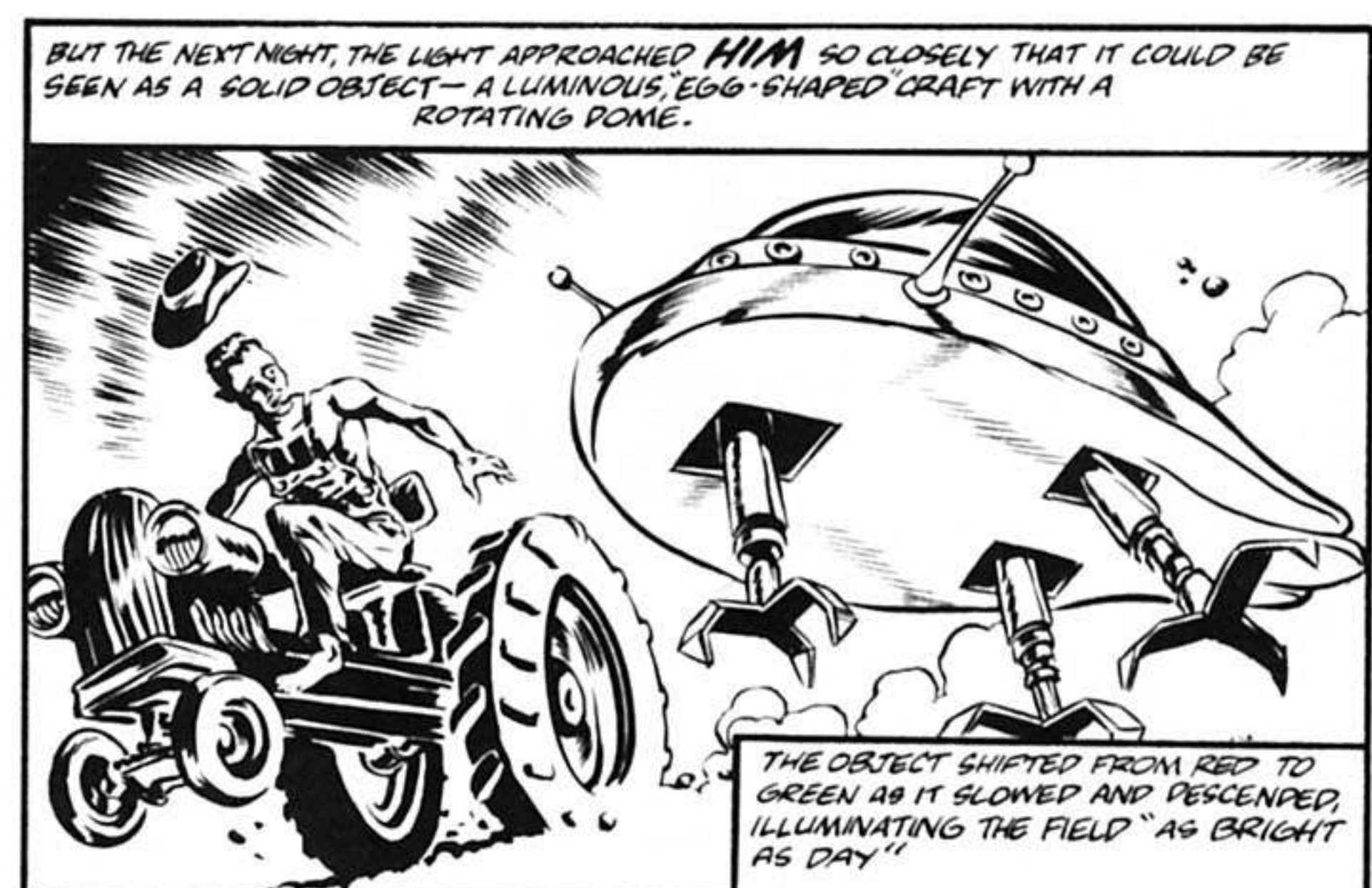
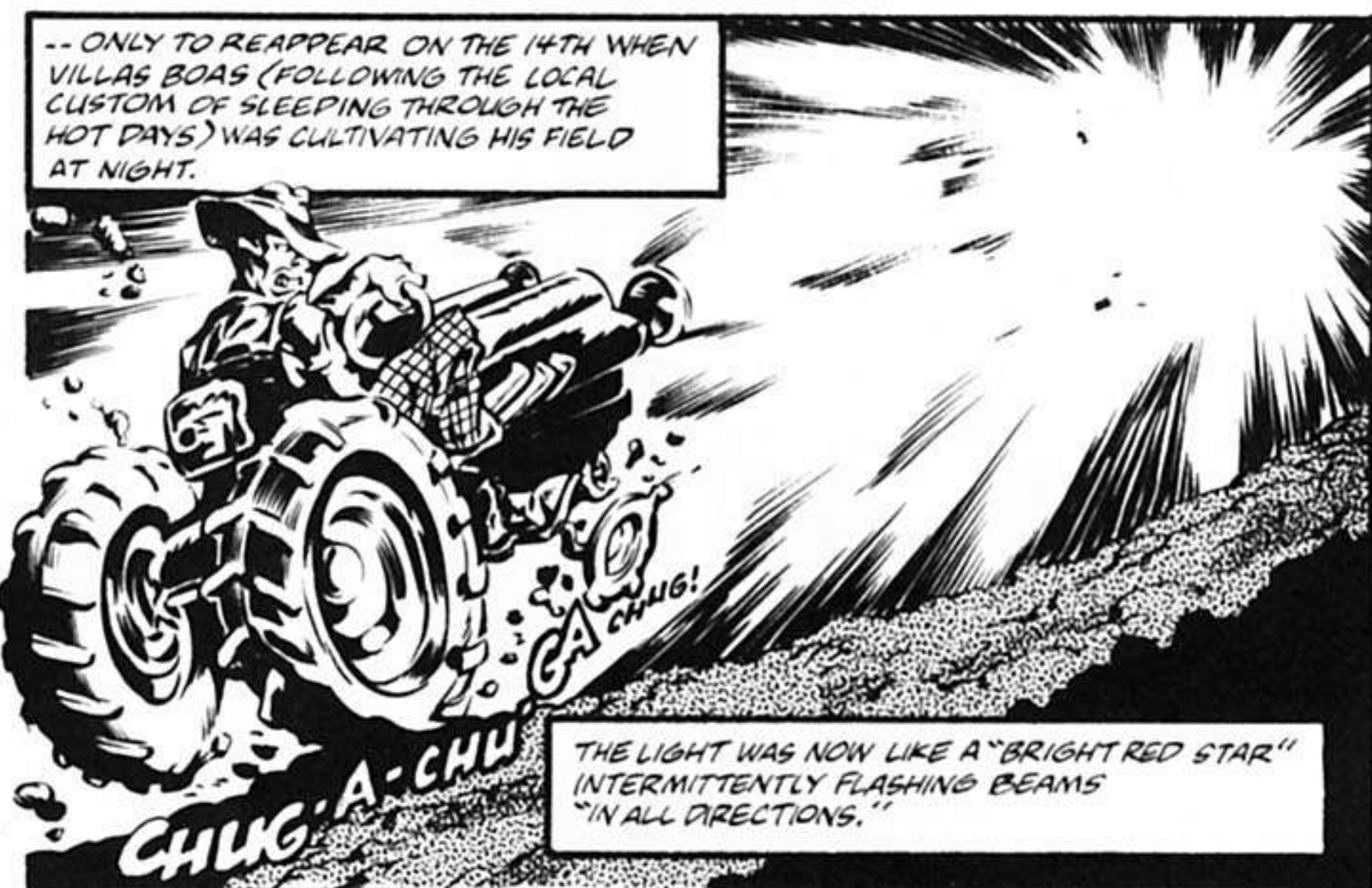
THE FAMOUS 'SURGEON'S PHOTO' OF NESSIE FROM 1934 WAS APPARENTLY DISCREDITED BY THE RECENT DEATHBED CONFESSION OF A 'MODELMAKER.'

YET, AS DETAILED ELSEWHERE, THE REAL HOAX MAY WELL BE THE CLAIM OF HOAX, KEEPING EVERYTHING BLURRY.











THIS TIME IT WAS THE FARMER WHO TRIED TO FLEE—ONLY TO HAVE HIS TRACTOR GO DEAD.



ALTHOUGH VILLAS BOAS WAS NOT AWARE OF IT, STALLED VEHICLES AND OTHER ELECTROMAGNETIC EFFECTS ARE COMMON FEATURES OF LIFO REPORTS.

LEAPING FROM HIS TRACTOR TO ESCAPE ON FOOT, VILLAS BOAS WAS SEIZED BY A SMALL FIGURE IN A STRANGE GRAY SUIT AND A HELMET.



--BUT WAS QUICKLY OVERWHELMED BY THREE OTHER BEINGS, WHO HELPED THE FIRST DRAG VILLAS BOAS ABOARD THE NOW-LANDED CRAFT VIA A FLEXIBLE METAL LADDER.



INSIDE A METALLIC, OVAL-SHAPED ROOM, VILLAS BOAS "CURSED WITH LOUD TELLS" AS HIS ABDUCTORS FORCIBLY STRIPPED HIM.



SOMEHOW SUBDUED (THIS POINT IS VAGUE), VILLAS BOAS THEN ENDURED A SPONGE-BATH OF "CLEAR, THICK, LIQUID" WHICH SWIFTLY EVAPORATED FROM HIS NAKED SKIN.



HE LATER SURMISED THAT IT MUST HAVE BEEN SOME SORT OF APHRODISIAC.

HE WAS THEN TAKEN INTO A DIFFERENT, "SQUARE" ROOM WHERE HE SAT ON A "STRANGELY HUMPED COUCH" WHILE "SMALL RUBBER PIPES" WERE USED TO EXTRACT BLOOD SAMPLES FROM HIS CHIN--



--UNDERSTANDABLY MAKING HIM FEEL LIKE A LAB ANIMAL, ALTHOUGH THE PRECISE NATURE OF THE EXPERIMENT WAS STILL FAR FROM CLEAR.



THE BEINGS LEFT THE ROOM THROUGH AN AIRTIGHT DOOR LEAVING VILLAS BOAS ALONE.



AFTER HALF AN HOUR, HE WAS ASSAILED BY THE FOUL ODOR OF "BURNING PAINT RAGS" AS "GRAY SMOKE" PUMPED INTO THE ROOM.

ALTHOUGH THE STRANGE VAPORS EVENTUALLY DISPERSED, VILLAS BOAS VOMITED ON THE FLOOR.



THEN A NAKED WOMAN ENTERED THE ROOM. SAID VILLAS BOAS: "HER BODY WAS MUCH MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN ANY I HAVE EVER SEEN. IT WAS SLIM, AND HER BREASTS STOOD UP HIGH AND WELL SEPARATED."



"HER WAISTLINE WAS THIN, HER BELLY FLAT, HER HIPS WELL DEVELOPED." YOW!

HER TRIANGULAR FACE, HOWEVER, WAS DOWNRIGHT WEIRD — WITH POINTED CHIN, HIGH CHEEKBONES, AND LARGE SLANTED EYES, BUT ALMOST NO LIPS, NOSE OR EARS.



ALTHOUGH HER HAIR WAS WHITE, ANTONIO LIKENED HER TO "AN ARABIAN PRINCESS." (TODAY SHE'D BE SEEN AS A "GRAY" IN PLATINUM BLONDE DRAG).

ASSUMING THE "GRAY SMOKE" ENABLED THE WOMAN TO BREATHE IN THE BUFF, VILLAS BOAS WATCHED AS SHE SILENTLY APPROACHED.



"THIS SOUNDS INCREDIBLE CONSIDERING THE CIRCUMSTANCES," ADMITS THE EARTHMAN, "BUT I FELT HER MOVING BODY GLUED TO MINE AND I BEGAN TO GET EXCITED."

IT WAS THEN THAT ANTONIO VILLAS BOAS UNDERSTOOD THE PURPOSE OF HIS ABDUCTION — AN ACT THAT WOULD GIVE NEW MEANING TO THE PHRASE "CLOSE ENCOUNTER."



"WE ENDED UP ON THE COUCH... AND SHE RESPONDED AS ANY WOMAN WOULD." EXCEPT FOR TWO CURIOUS DETAILS--



FIRST, "THE GROWLS THAT CAME FROM HER NEARLY SPOILED EVERYTHING, AS THEY GAVE ME THE IMPRESSION OF LYING WITH AN ANIMAL."



AND SECOND, THERE WAS NO KISSING, ALTHOUGH THE WOMAN DID NIBBLE HIS CHIN (A SPACE VAMPIRESS ENJOYING TRACES OF BLOOD FROM THE SAMPLE EXTRACT?)

VILLAS BOAS NEVERTHELESS PERSEVERED AND PERFORMED WELL ENOUGH FOR A SECOND ROUND, AFTER WHICH HIS SPACE MATE COLLECTED SPERM SAMPLES — "APPARENTLY FOR FREEZING."



WHEN SHE'D HAD ENOUGH, THE WOMAN POINTED AT HER BELLY, SMILED WEIRDLY, THEN POINTED STRAIGHT UP — WHICH VILLAS BOAS INEXPLICABLY INTERPRETED AS "I'LL BE BACK FOR YOU."



MORE PLAUSIBLE: "UP THERE, MAN, IS WHERE I'M GONNA HAVE YOUR **HYBRID BABY.**"

AFTER THE WOMAN LEFT, THE OTHER BEINGS RETURNED AND ALLOWED VILLAS BOAS TO PRESS, THEN GAVE HIM A "TOUR" OF THE CRAFT.



KNOWING HIS STORY WOULD NEVER BE BELIEVED, HE ATTEMPTED TO SECURE PROOF — BUT WAS STOPPED FROM FILCHING A SOUVENIR "CLOCK-LIKE DEVICE."

DUMPED BACK IN HIS FIELD, VILLAS BOAS WATCHED THE LUMINOUS CRAFT SLOWLY RISE, DOME SPINNING AND LANDING GEAR RETRACTING.



AT AN ALTITUDE OF SOME 30 METERS, IT BRIEFLY HOVERED, SHIFTING FROM GREEN TO RED AS ITS ROTATION ACCELERATED TREMENDOUSLY —

-- THEN IT SHOT OFF ACROSS THE SKY "LIKE A BULLET."



MORE THAN FOUR HOURS HAD PASSED.



IN THE AFTERMATH OF HIS EXTRAORDINARY EXPERIENCE, VILLAS BOAS WAS PLAGUED WITH MALAISE - FATIGUE, NAUSEA, NIGHTMARES, AND STRANGE VIOLET SORES ON HIS BODY.



AFTER A MONTH, HE CONTACTED JOURNALIST JOAO MARTINS AND DR. OLAVO FONTES, WHO NOTED SMALL SCARS ON THE PRO-FESSED ABDUCTEE'S CHIN AND DIAG-NOSED HIM AS SUFFERING FROM MILD RADIATION SICKNESS.



MARTINS AND FONTES WERE BOTH IMPRESSED BY THE YOUNG FARMER'S EMBARRASSED SINCERITY AND NEITHER COULD SHAKE OR FAULT HIS STORY - NOR COULD THEY HELP.

ALTHOUGH ADVISED HE COULD SELL HIS WILD TALE TO THE POPULAR PRESS, VILLAS BOAS INSTEAD RETURNED TO HIS FARM, NEVER SEEKING TO PROFIT FROM HIS ONE-NIGHT STAND WITH THE SUCCUBUS FROM SPACE.



INDEED, WHEN HE FINALLY BROKE HIS SILENCE 23 YEARS LATER, IT WAS ONLY TO EXPRESS RESENTMENT AT THE TREATMENT HE HAD RECEIVED - INCLUDING THE ULTIMATE LOW OF STARRING IN A FRENCH COMIC STRIP.



BY 1980, VILLAS BOAS HAD UNDERGONE A STARTLING TRANSFORMATION FROM POOR BACHELOR FARMER TO MARRIED ATTORNEY AND FATHER OF FOUR (KNOWN) CHILDREN. WHEN ASKED HOW SHE'D FEEL IF HER HUSBAND HAD MORE DISTANT OFFSPRING, ANTONIO'S WIFE REPLIED:



AT FIRST, CONTEMPORARY RESEARCHERS SELF-CENSORED THE NOW-QUAINT STORY FOR BEING "TOO WILD AND IMPROBABLE," EVEN FOR THE UFO FIELD.





IN ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF MIX-AND-MATCH PHENOMENA — A SPLICING OF MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE AND UFO — WE LEARN THAT NO ALL ABDUCTEES RETURN, AND THAT SOME ALLEGED ABDUCTIONS INVOLVE MORE THAN JUST A PERSON.

SOMETIMES THINGS LIKE CARS OR EVEN AN AIRPLANE CAN DISAPPEAR, AS IN THE CHILLING CASE OF --



## THE VALENTICH VANISHING

NASA DEPUTY PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR ALBERT M. CHOP CATEGORICALLY STATED: "WE ARE BEING WATCHED BY BEINGS FROM OUTER SPACE."



OF COURSE, IT'S A SHORT JUMP FROM WATCHING TO INTERACTING...

WHICH BRINGS US TO THE EVENING OF OCTOBER 21, 1978, WHEN 20-YEAR-OLD PILOT FREDERICK VALENTICH PREPARED FOR A SOLO FLIGHT FROM MOORABBIN AIRPORT IN MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA ACROSS BASS STRAIT --



WHERE YOU OFF TO, FREDERICK?

KING ISLAND — TO COLLECT SOME CRAYFISH FOR THE AIR TRAINING CORPS OFFICERS — BE BACK BY 10:00!

EVEN THOUGH HIS BLUE AND WHITE CESSNA 182 WAS CONSIDERED A "HIGHLY RELIABLE WORKHORSE" AND WEATHER CONDITIONS FAVORED AN "IDEAL NIGHT FOR FLYING" --



-- HIS PLANNED FOUR-HOUR ROUND TRIP, BEGUN AT 6:19 PM, WOULD NEVER BE COMPLETED.



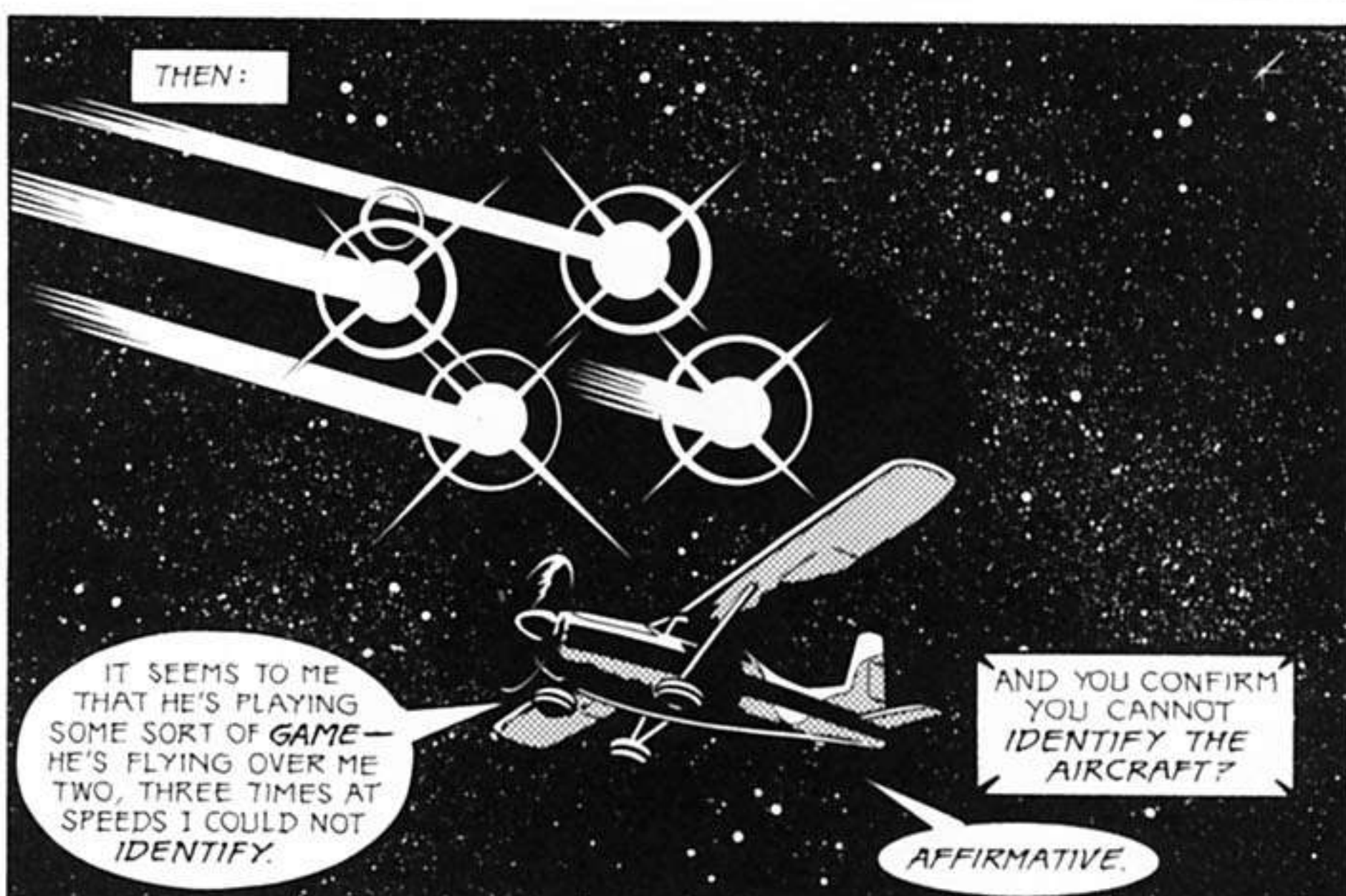
THE FOLLOWING SIX-MINUTE RADIO EXCHANGE, FROM A VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT OF THE ACTUAL TAPE, BEGAN AT 7:06 PM, WHEN STEVE ROBEY OF GROUND CONTROL FIRST HEARD FROM THE CESSNA, TAGGED "DELTA SIERRA JULIET":

MELBOURNE, THIS IS DELTA SIERRA JULIET. IS THERE ANY KNOWN TRAFFIC BELOW FIVE THOUSAND FEET?

DELTA SIERRA JULIET, NO KNOWN TRAFFIC.









NO RESPONSE FOR  
FIFTEEN SECONDS, THEN:

MELBOURNE, IT SEEMS LIKE IT'S  
STATIONARY. WHAT I'M DOING RIGHT NOW  
IS ORBITING AND THE THING IS JUST  
ORBITING ON TOP OF ME ALSO.

IT'S GOT A  
GREEN LIGHT AND  
SORT OF METALLIC  
LIKE — IT'S ALL  
SHINY ON THE  
OUTSIDE.

THEN, AT  
7:10 AND 46 SECONDS,  
VALENTICH REPORTED:

IT'S JUST  
VANISHED!

MELBOURNE, WOULD YOU KNOW  
WHAT KIND OF AIRCRAFT I'VE GOT?  
IS IT A MILITARY AIRCRAFT?

DELTA SIERRA JULIET,  
CONFIRM THE...ER...  
AIRCRAFT JUST VANISHED.

IT'S...  
NOW APPROACHING  
FROM THE  
SOUTHWEST.

THE ENGINE IS ROUGH-IDLING.  
I'VE GOT IT SET AT TWENTY-THREE  
TWENTY-FOUR AND THE THING IS  
COUGHING.

ROGER —  
WHAT ARE YOUR  
INTENTIONS?

MY INTENTIONS ARE ...  
AH... TO GO TO KING ISLAND...  
AH... MELBOURNE --

THAT STRANGE AIRCRAFT  
IS HOVERING ON TOP OF ME  
AGAIN — IT IS HOVERING  
AND IT IS NOT AN AIRCRAFT.

DELTA  
SIERRA  
JULIET --

MELBOURNE --

GNNRRRRRR

YEOW!

AND THAT WAS VALENTICH'S LAST WORD,  
CUT OFF AS HIS OPEN MICROPHONE  
TRANSMITTED A 17-SECOND BURST OF  
LOUD "METALLIC" NOISE, ENDLESSLY ANA-  
LYZED BUT UNEXPLAINED TO THIS DAY.



THE NOISE, HOWEVER, DOES SUGGEST THE SAME KIND OF ELECTROMAGNETIC INTERFERENCE SO OFTEN ASSOCIATED WITH STALLED CAR ENGINES DURING UFO ENCOUNTERS.

WAS FREDERICK VALENTICH THE VICTIM OF AN AWESOME, EVEN HORRIFYING, UFO ABDUCTION — PLANE AND ALL?

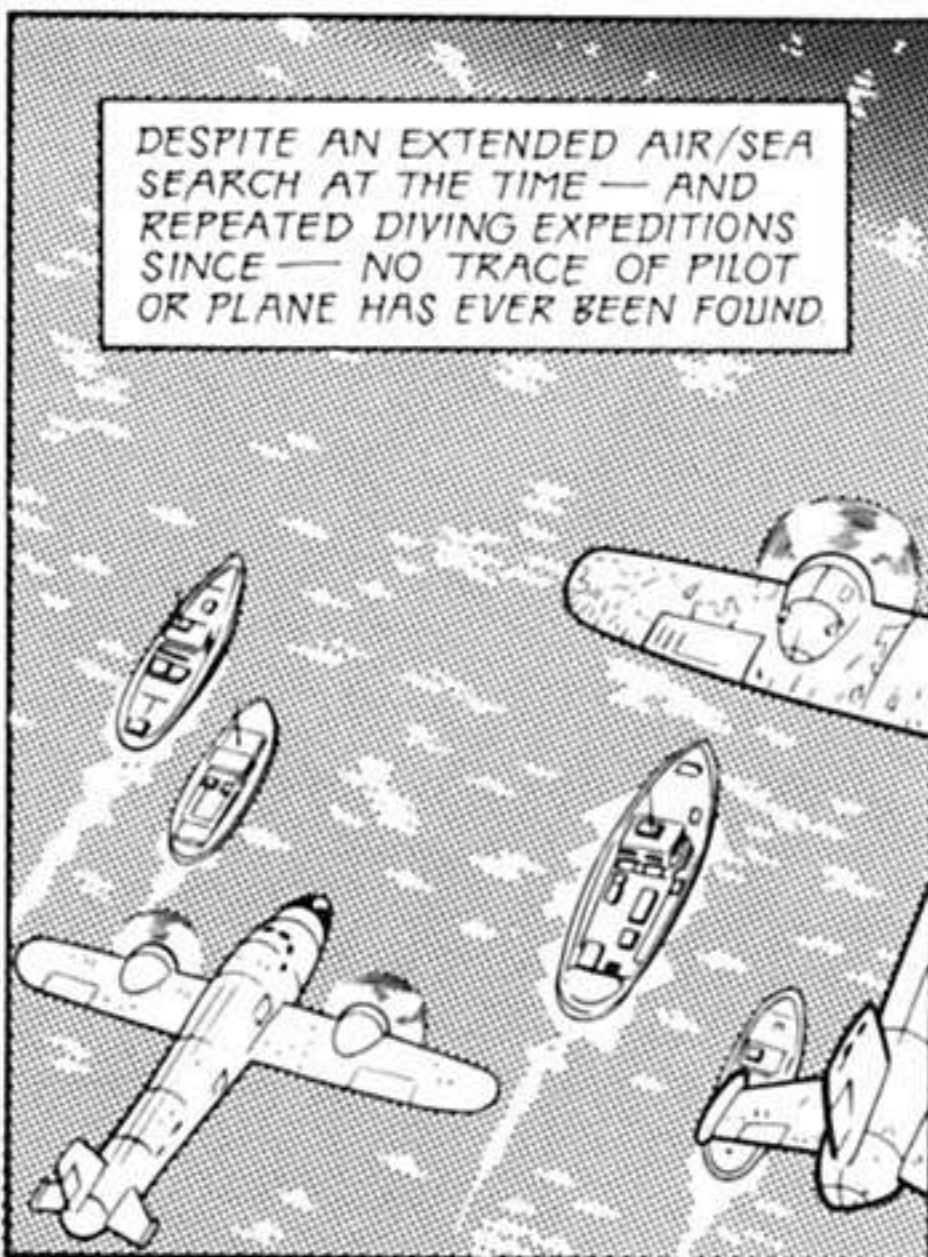


WHATEVER THE PILOT'S ACTUAL FATE, FLIGHT CONTROLLER ROBEY STATED THAT BY THE END OF THE TRANSMISSIONS --

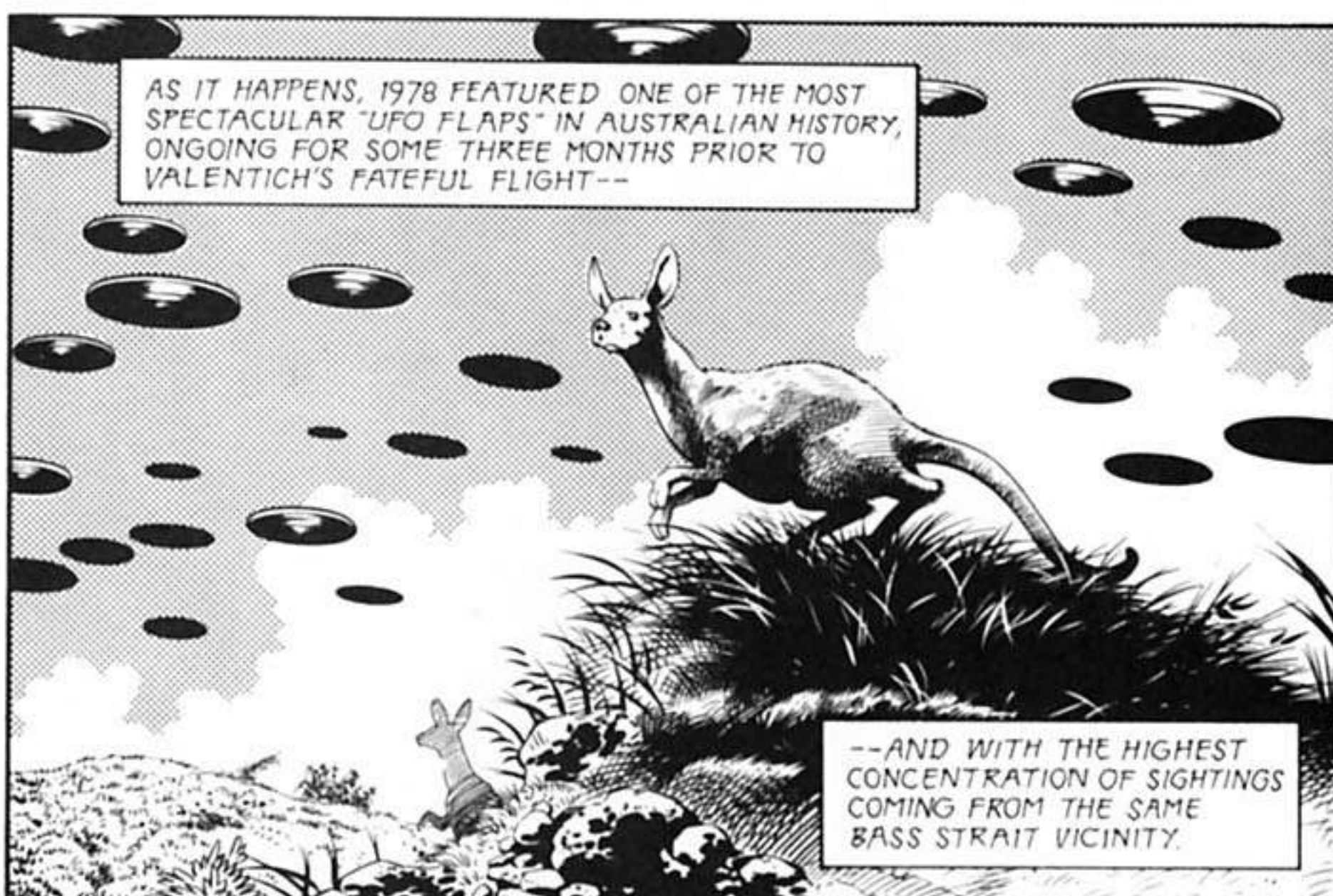
-- HE WAS DEFINITELY CONCERNED FOR HIS SAFETY.



DESPITE AN EXTENDED AIR/SEA SEARCH AT THE TIME — AND REPEATED DIVING EXPEDITIONS SINCE — NO TRACE OF PILOT OR PLANE HAS EVER BEEN FOUND

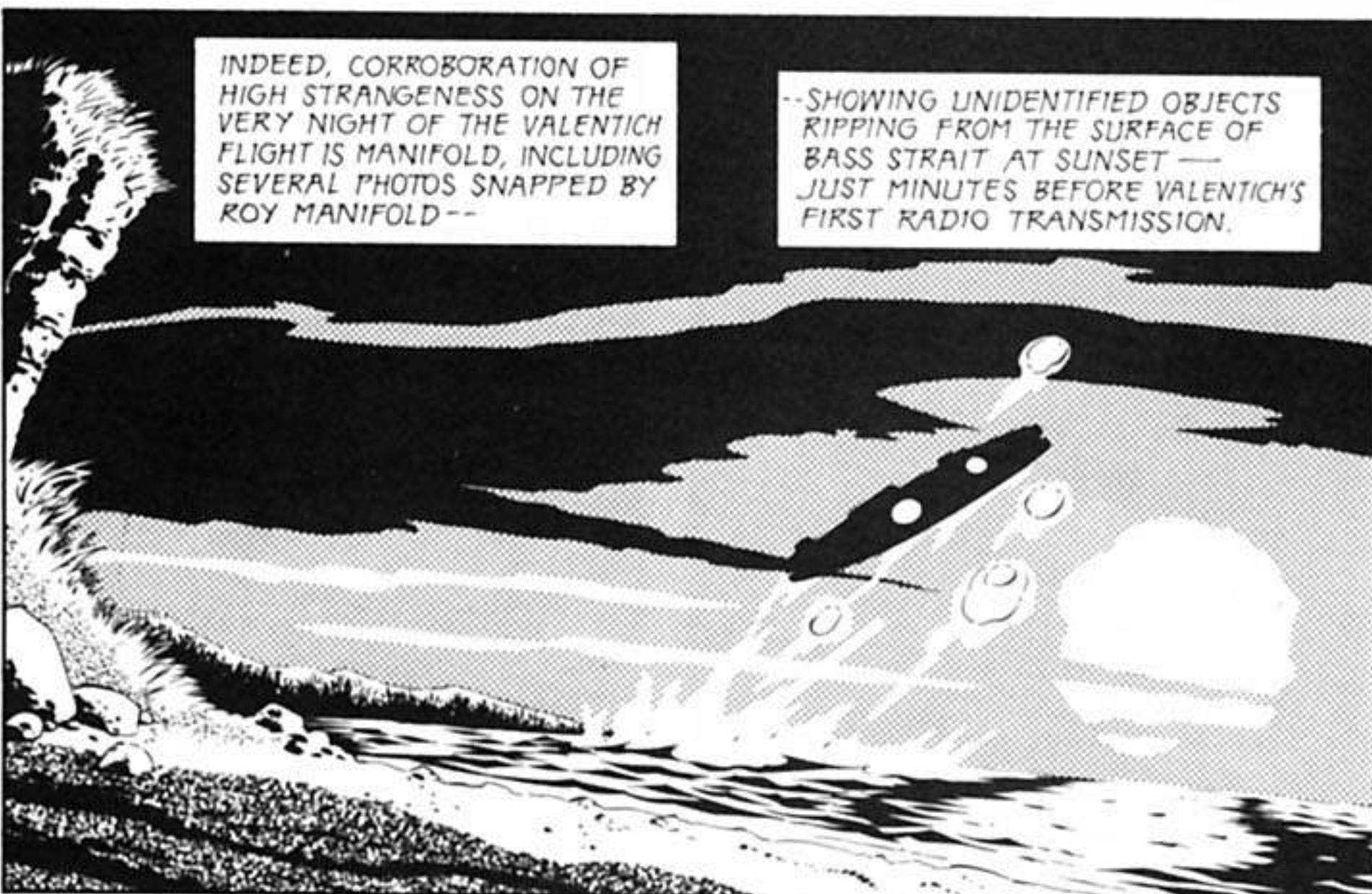


AS IT HAPPENS, 1978 FEATURED ONE OF THE MOST SPECTACULAR "UFO FLAPS" IN AUSTRALIAN HISTORY, ONGOING FOR SOME THREE MONTHS PRIOR TO VALENTICH'S FATEFUL FLIGHT --



--AND WITH THE HIGHEST CONCENTRATION OF SIGHTINGS COMING FROM THE SAME BASS STRAIT VICINITY.

INDEED, CORROBORATION OF HIGH STRANGENESS ON THE VERY NIGHT OF THE VALENTICH FLIGHT IS MANIFOLD, INCLUDING SEVERAL PHOTOS SNAPPED BY ROY MANIFOLD --



--SHOWING UNIDENTIFIED OBJECTS RIPPING FROM THE SURFACE OF BASS STRAIT AT SUNSET — JUST MINUTES BEFORE VALENTICH'S FIRST RADIO TRANSMISSION.

THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE SAID THE PHOTOS DEPICT A CUMULUS CLOUD.

BUT WITH SUNSET MEASURING THE TIME SEQUENCE OF THE MANIFOLD PHOTOS, THE ALLEGED CLOUD WOULD HAVE BEEN MOVING AT 200 MPH — IN CONDITIONS OF 'LIGHT SEA BREEZES'.





IN ANY CASE, AT LEAST TWENTY OTHER WITNESSES AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS AROUND BASS STRAIT REPORTED A LUMINOUS GREEN OBJECT AT THE SAME TIME VALENTICH WAS DESCRIBING HIS OWN GREEN LIGHT ENCOUNTER.

ANOTHER UFO REPORT? IS EVERYONE DRUNK TONIGHT?!



ONE OF THE MORE BIZARRE REPORTS CAME FROM A BANK MANAGER AND HIS WIFE, WHO DESCRIBED A MYSTERIOUS GREEN OBJECT IN THE SHAPE OF A STARFISH.

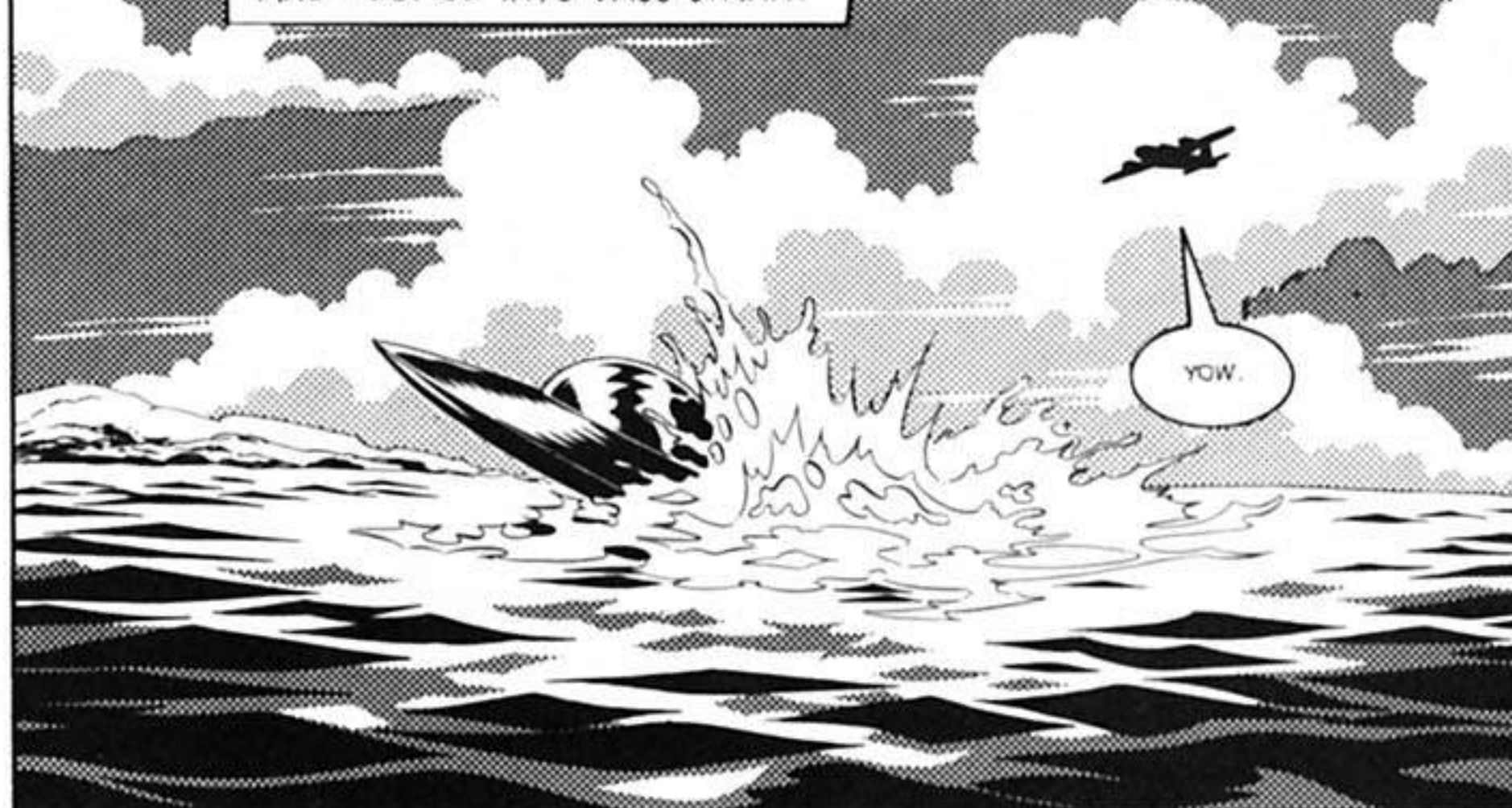


BACK IN 1920, WHEN A SCHOONER DISAPPEARED IN BASS STRAIT, OTHER SHIPS REPORTED "LARGE FLARES." CAPTAIN J. STUT AND SGT. A.G. DALZELL PROMPTLY FLEW TO THE AREA.

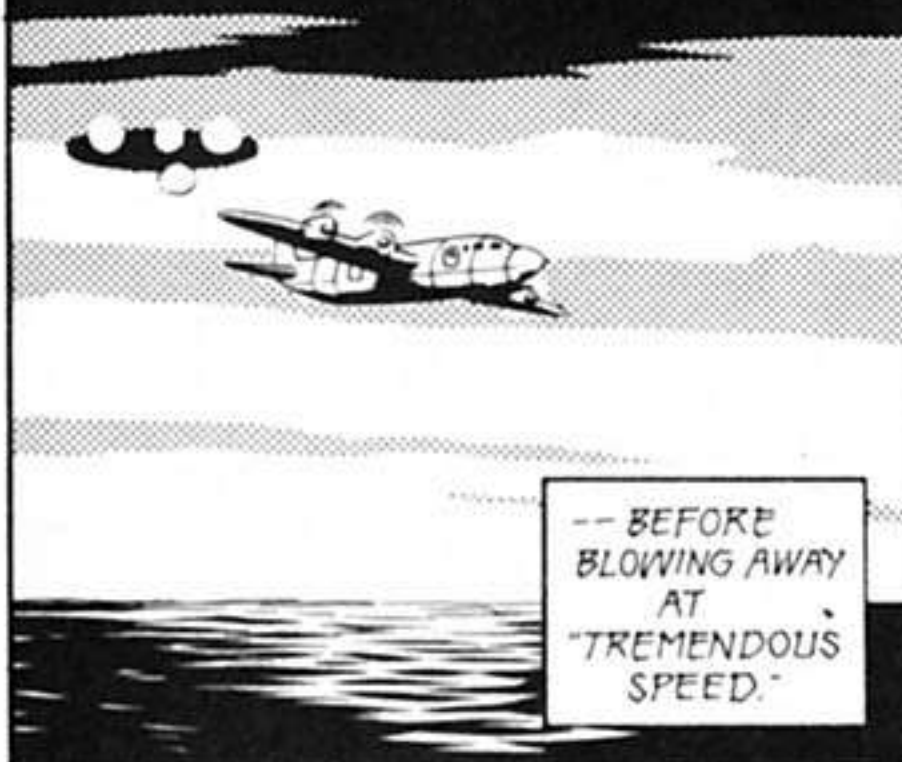


LIKE VALENTICH AND HIS CESSNA, THEY AND THEIR PLANE WERE NEVER SEEN AGAIN, NOR WAS THE SCHOONER — ALTHOUGH MANY HAVE SINCE SEEN THE "FLARES."

RESPONDING TO REPORTS OF AERIAL LIGHTS IN THE SUMMER OF 1942, A ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE PILOT WATCHED A "SHINING BRONZE" UFO WITH A "PLEXIGLASS CANOPY" BURST FROM THE CLOUDS AND PLUNGE INTO BASS STRAIT.



AND IN FEBRUARY 1944 (STILL MORE THAN 30 YEARS PRIOR TO THE VALENTICH INCIDENT), A BEAUFORT BOMBER SUFFERED LOSS OF RADIO AND NAVIGATION WHEN A UFO PACED IT AT 100 FEET FOR TWENTY MINUTES ABOVE BASS STRAIT —



-- BEFORE BLOWING AWAY AT "TREMENDOUS SPEED."

COMMENTING ON OTHER PLANES WHICH DISAPPEARED WITHOUT TRACE IN THE SAME VICINITY DURING WORLD WAR II, AUSTRALIAN RESEARCHER BILL CHALKER POINTS OUT:

THE BASS STRAIT AREA WAS NOT LINKED TO ANY SIGNIFICANT ENEMY ACTIVITY.

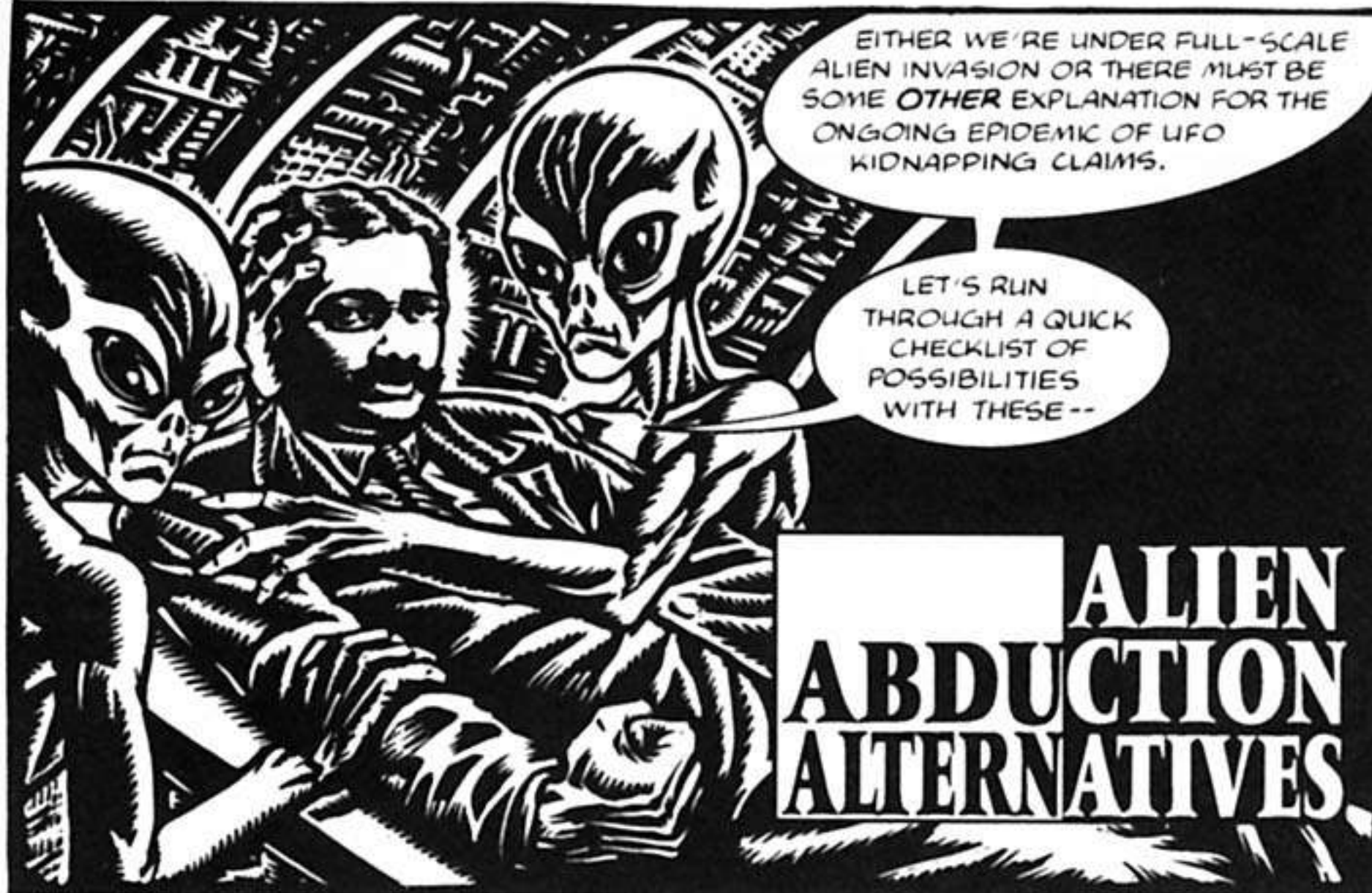


AT LEAST NOT KNOWN ENEMIES.

BUT WHETHER OR NOT BASS STRAIT IS ONE OF THE WORLD'S "WINDOWS ON THE WEIRD," THE FREDERICH VALENTICH CASE REMAINS ONE OF THE MOST SHOCKING AND TRAGIC UFO INCIDENTS ON RECORD --









SCREEN MEMORIES - INDUCED TO HIDE THE REALITY OF GOVERNMENT MIND CONTROL EXPERIMENTS.



ARE YOU REALLY... UNCLE SAM?

TRUTH: HEY, ANYTHING'S POSSIBLE WITH THE CIA.

SEXUAL FANTASIES.



WHAT ARE YOU DOING DOWN THERE?!

WEAKNESS: FEW ABDUCTEES HAVE BEEN TURNED ON BY THE COLDLY INTRUSIVE ALIEN "GYNECOLOGICAL PROCEDURES."

FLASHBACKS OF PAST MEDICAL PROCEDURES.



YOWTCH!

PROBLEM: THE "MEDICAL EXAM" COMPRISES ONLY ONE ELEMENT OF THE COMPLEX AND EXTENDED ABDUCTION EXPERIENCE.

RELIGIOUS ECSTASY OR VISIONS.



GLORY HALLELUJAH! AMEN!

ILLOGICAL: ALTHOUGH THEY MAY COME FROM HEAVEN, UFO ABDUCTORS ARE OFTEN MORE DEMONIC THAN ANGELIC - AND MANY OF THEIR VICTIMS ARE NOT AT ALL RELIGIOUS.

CONFABULATION - INDUCED BY A HYPNOTIST'S BELIEFS (AND LEADING QUESTIONS).



THEY REALLY ABUSED YOU, DIDN'T THEY?

FLAW: MOST ABDUCTEES EXPERIENCE CONSCIOUS RECALL BEFORE CONSULTING A HYPNOTIST, WHILE MANY NEVER UNDERGO HYPNOSIS.

HOAX - FOR FAME AND FORTUNE.



HOAH! THOSE TABLOIDS SURE PAY A BUNDLE!

TRUTH: VERY FEW ABDUCTEES EVER SEEK TO PROFIT FROM THEIR EXPERIENCES, AND MOST AVOID PUBLICITY OF ANY KIND.

REAL ABDUCTIONS: JUST AS DESCRIBED - BY CUNNING KIDNAPPERS FROM BEYOND.



RELAX, BABE - WE'RE NOT REALLY HAPPENING.

YEAH, WE'RE ALL IN YOUR MIND, TOOTS.

COUNTER-ARGUMENT: IT SIMPLY CAN'T BE TRUE! SO SLEEP TIGHT - AND DON'T LET THE BEDBUGS BITE...



WE'VE ALL SEEN MAINSTREAM MEDIA'S PORTRAIT OF THE TYPICAL UFO WITNESS—A WHITE-TRASH DRUNKEN DOOFUS FROM SOME TRAILER PARK ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF HICKSVILLE.

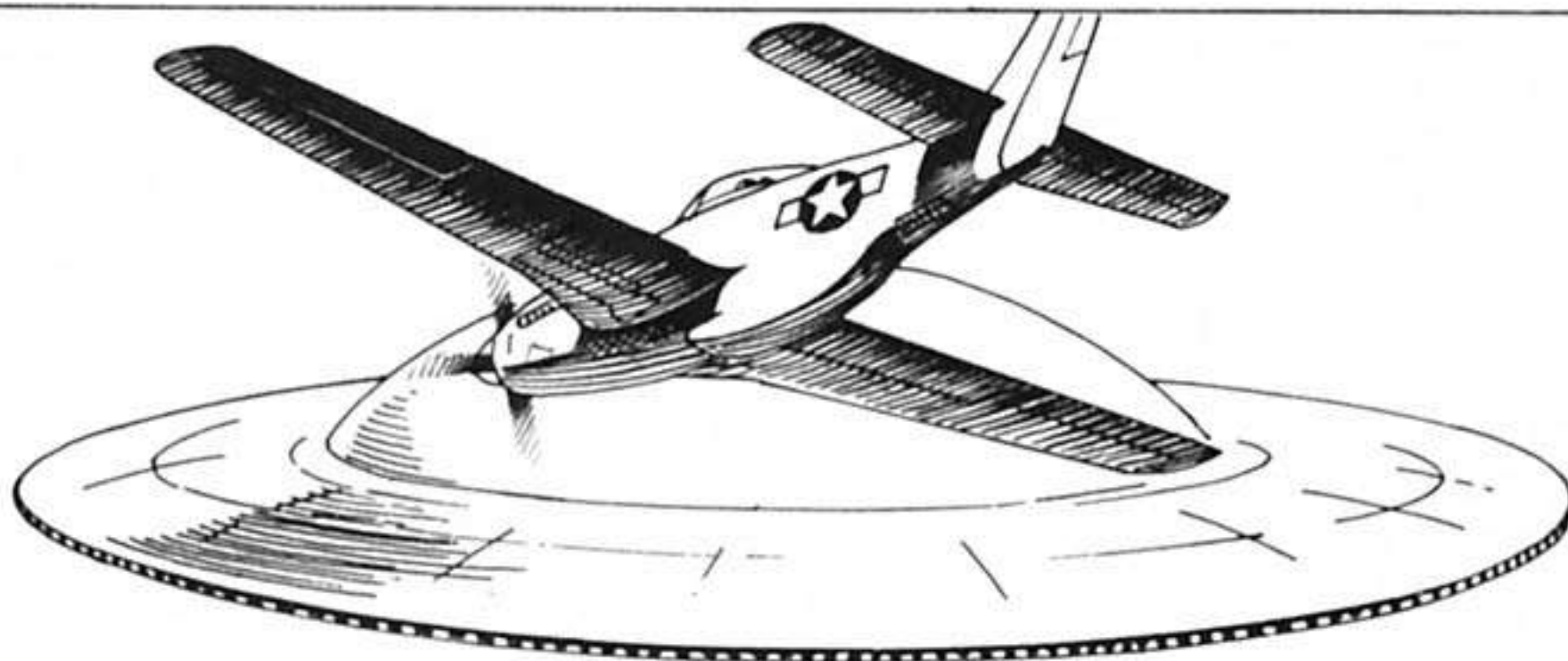
ACTUAL EYEWITNESSES, HOWEVER, INCLUDE SOBER AND RESPONSIBLE INDIVIDUALS FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE.

RIGHT NOW, LET'S FOCUS ON SOME POSSIBLE ENCOUNTERS BETWEEN--



# THE ASTRONAUTS AND THE ALIENS

"BUT AS SOON AS I GOT BEHIND THE DARN THING IT DIDN'T LOOK LIKE A BALLOON ANYMORE. IT LOOKED LIKE A SAUCER, A DISK. I TRACKED IT A LITTLE WAY, AND THEN ALL OF A SUDDEN THE DAMN THING PULLED A 45-DEGREE TURN AND JUST FLAT DISAPPEARED."



AFTER REPORTING THIS TO INTELLIGENCE, SLAYTON SAID, "I NEVER HEARD ANYTHING MORE ON IT."

FINALLY, APOLLO 8 ASTRONAUT JAMES LOVELL BROKE THE SILENCE WITH A CRYPTIC COMMENT FROM ONE WORLD TO ANOTHER:

HOUSTON, WE'VE JUST BEEN TOLD SANTA CLAUS EXISTS!



MEDICAL MONITORS SHOWED A DRASTIC AND ABRUPT JUMP IN LOVELL'S PULSE RATE.



BACK IN 1951, FUTURE ASTRONAUT DONALD "DEKE" SLAYTON CHASED SOMETHING WHILE TEST-PILOTING A P-51 NEAR MINNEAPOLIS.

LOOKS LIKE A WEATHER BALLOON.



SEVENTEEN YEARS LATER, HOUSTON MISSION CONTROL DIDN'T HEAR ANYTHING EITHER...FOR SIX AGONIZING MINUTES.

APOLLO, ARE YOU THERE?



IT WAS CHRISTMAS DAY, 1968.

GORDON COOPER HAS STATED THAT WHILE MOST ASTRONAUTS ARE UNDERSTANDABLY RELUCTANT TO DISCUSS THE SUBJECT--

SEVERAL OF US DO BELIEVE IN UFOS.

THE FACT THAT MANY EXPERIENCED PILOTS HAVE REPORTED STRANGE SIGHTS WAS ONE OF THE REASONS I WANTED TO BECOME AN ASTRONAUT.





"I DID HAVE TWO DAYS OF OBSERVATION OF MANY FLIGHTS OF (UFOS), OF DIFFERENT SIZES, FLYING IN FIGHTER FORMATION, GENERALLY FROM EAST TO WEST OVER EUROPE."



SINCE COOPER'S SIGHTINGS OCCURRED IN PRE-ASTRONAUT 1951 - THE SAME YEAR DEKE SLAYTON CHASED A DISK OVER MINNEAPOLIS - WE PONDER A CHILLING QUESTION...

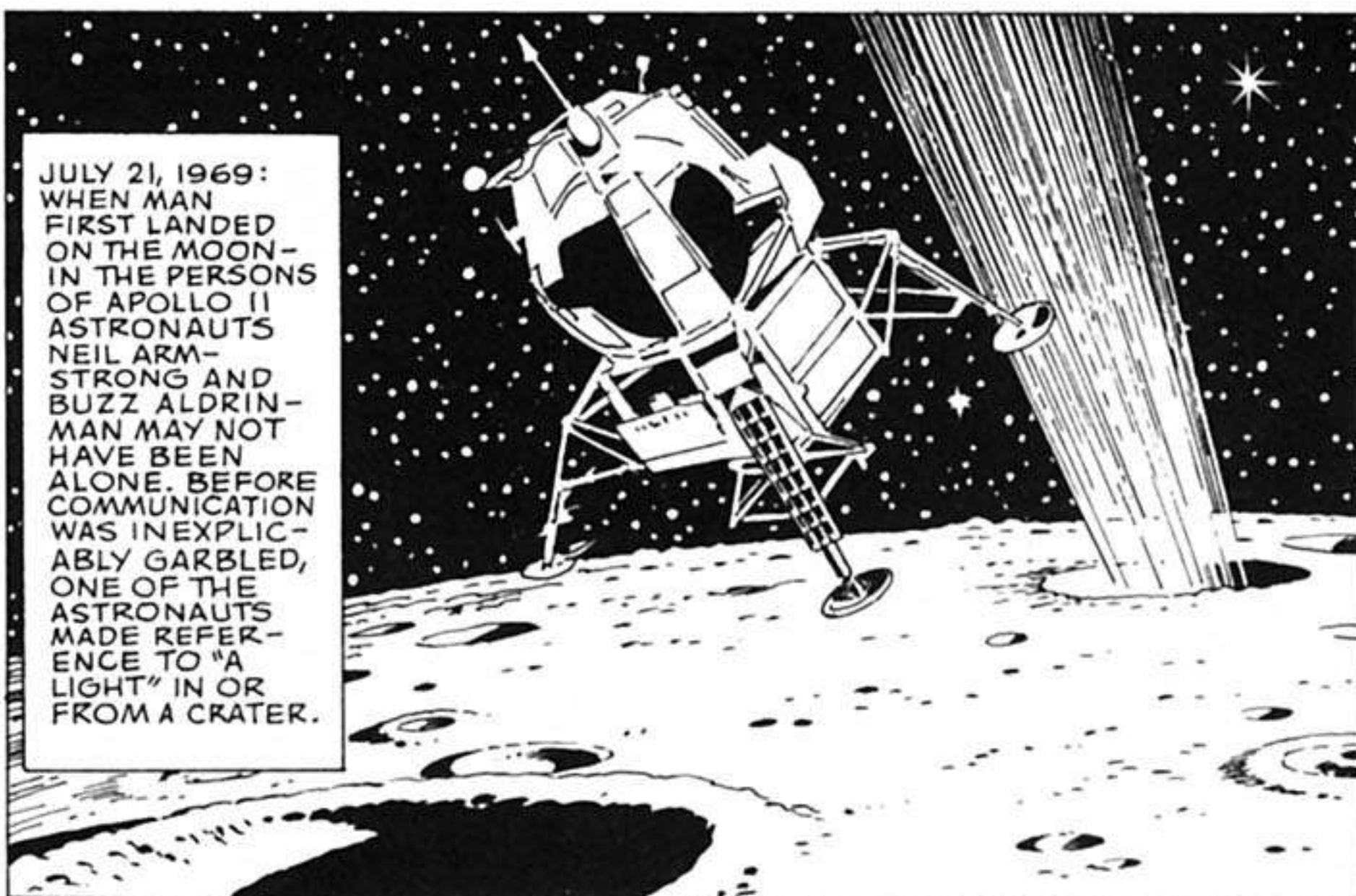
WAS THE "RIGHT STUFF" IMPLANTED IN THESE FLYBOYS?



FOLLOWING ATTENDANCE AT A 1978 UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON UFOS, COOPER WROTE: "I BELIEVE THAT THESE EXTRATERRESTRIAL VEHICLES AND THEIR CREWS ARE VISITING THIS PLANET FROM OTHER PLANETS."



JULY 21, 1969: WHEN MAN FIRST LANDED ON THE MOON - IN THE PERSONS OF APOLLO 11 ASTRONAUTS NEIL ARMSTRONG AND BUZZ ALDRIN - MAN MAY NOT HAVE BEEN ALONE. BEFORE COMMUNICATION WAS INEXPLICABLY GARBLED, ONE OF THE ASTRONAUTS MADE REFERENCE TO "A LIGHT" IN OR FROM A CRATER.

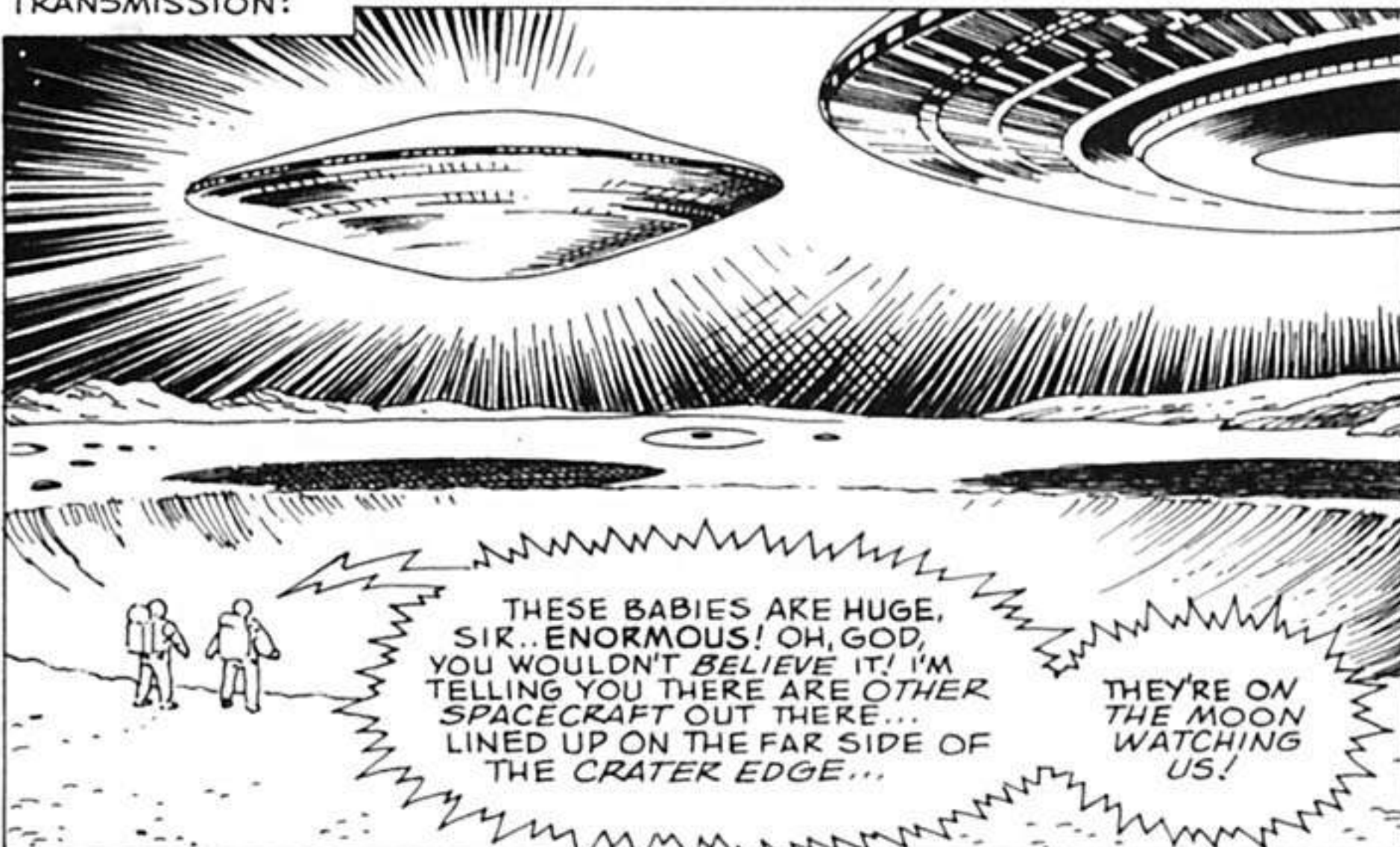


WHEN MISSION CONTROL (HARDLY A SEA OF TRANQUILITY AT THIS POINT) REQUESTED MORE INFORMATION, THE ONLY RESPONSE WAS A CACOPHONY OF WHISTLES AND ODD MECHANICAL SOUNDS, PROMPTING THE QUESTION:

APOLLO, DO YOU HAVE ANY COMPANY UP THERE?



THE ANSWER WAS AN EMPHATIC BUT SECRET YES, ACCORDING TO FORMER NASA EMPLOYEE OTTO BINDER, WHO QUOTED THIS SECURE-CHANNEL TRANSMISSION:



THESE BABIES ARE HUGE, SIR... ENORMOUS! OH, GOD, YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE IT! I'M TELLING YOU THERE ARE OTHER SPACECRAFT OUT THERE... LINED UP ON THE FAR SIDE OF THE CRATER EDGE...

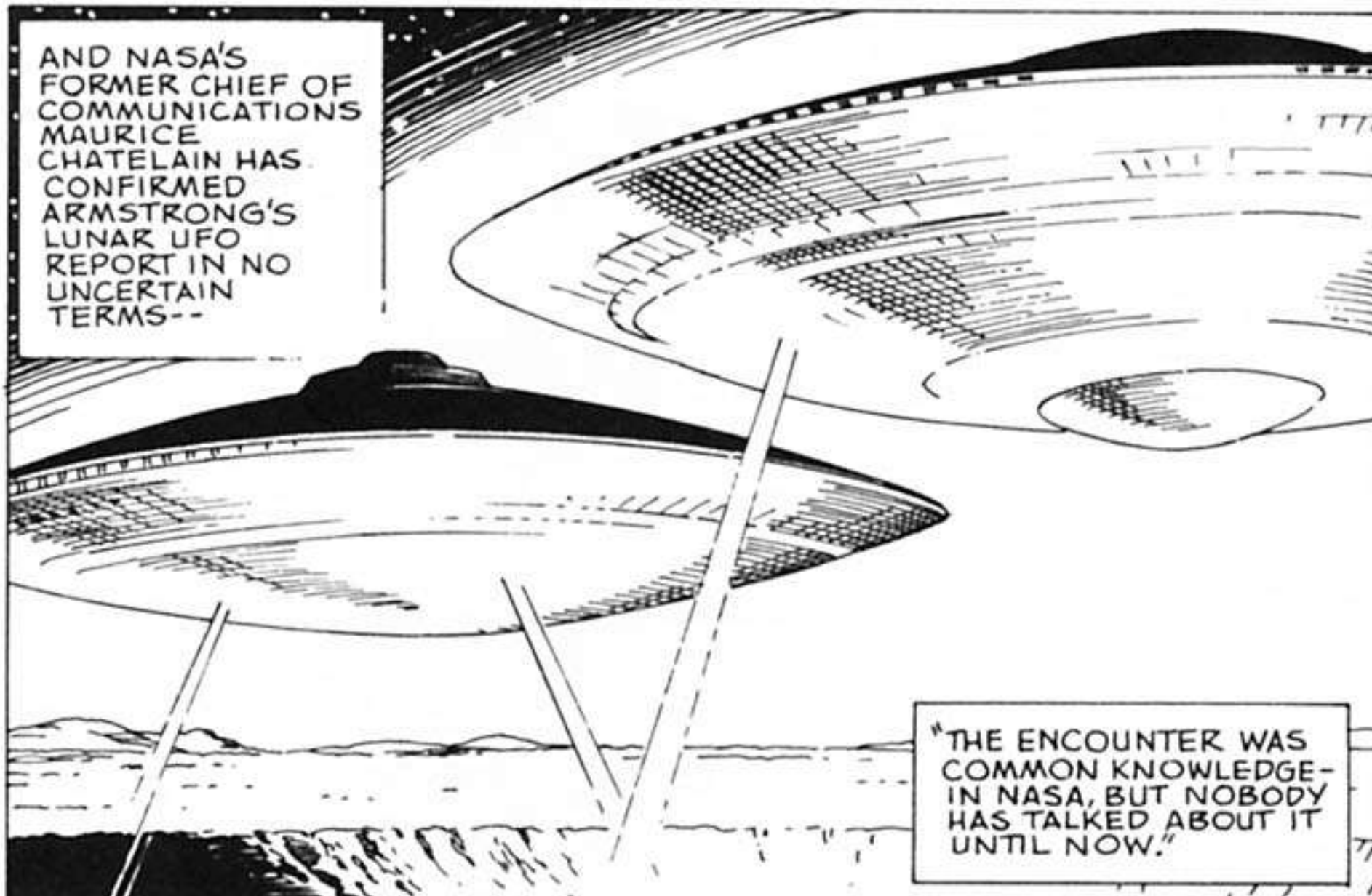
THEY'RE ON THE MOON WATCHING US!



WHILE THE ALLEGED TRANSMISSION MAY WELL BE BOGUS, NASA'S CHIEF OF PUBLIC INFORMATION JOHN MCLEASH ADMITS THAT SOME ASTRO-NAUT CONVERSATIONS ARE NEVER RELEASED TO THE PUBLIC.



AND NASA'S FORMER CHIEF OF COMMUNICATIONS MAURICE CHATELAIN HAS CONFIRMED ARMSTRONG'S LUNAR UFO REPORT IN NO UNCERTAIN TERMS--



FURTHER CONFIRMATION CAME FROM SOVIET PHYSICIST DR. VLADIM AZHAZHA: "ACCORDING TO OUR INFORMATION, THE ENCOUNTER WAS REPORTED IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE LANDING OF THE MODULE... BUT WAS NEVER HEARD BY THE PUBLIC—BECAUSE NASA CENSORED IT?"

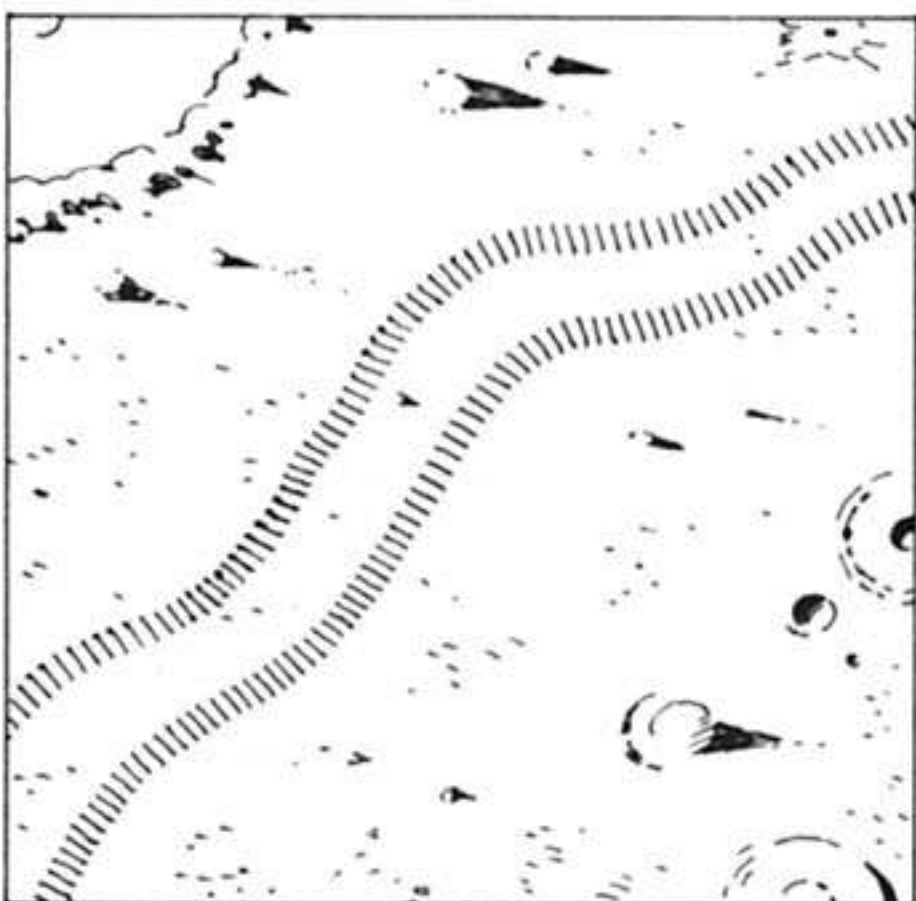
ANOTHER SOVIET, DR. ALEKSANDR KAZANTSEV, CLAIMS BUZZ ALDRIN CAPTURED THE UFOS ON COLOR MOVIE FILM FROM BOTH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE MODULE.



DR. GLENN SEABORG, THEN PRESIDENT OF THE ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION, ALLEGEDLY REVEALED IN DECEMBER, 1969 THAT APOLLO 11 HAD DISCOVERED "SUSPICIOUS TRACKS" ON THE LUNAR SURFACE--

A YEAR EARLIER, DURING APOLLO 8'S FIRST MANNED ORBIT OF THE MOON, BEAMS OF LIGHT WERE SEEN SHINING FROM MOUNT PICKERING.

MAURICE CHATELAIN COMES RIGHT OUT WITH IT: "ALL APOLLO AND GEMINI FLIGHTS WERE FOLLOWED, BOTH AT A DISTANCE AND SOMETIMES QUITE CLOSELY, BY SPACE VEHICLES OF EXTRATERRESTRIAL ORIGIN."



-- CLEAR EVIDENCE OF AN UNKNOWN VEHICLE.

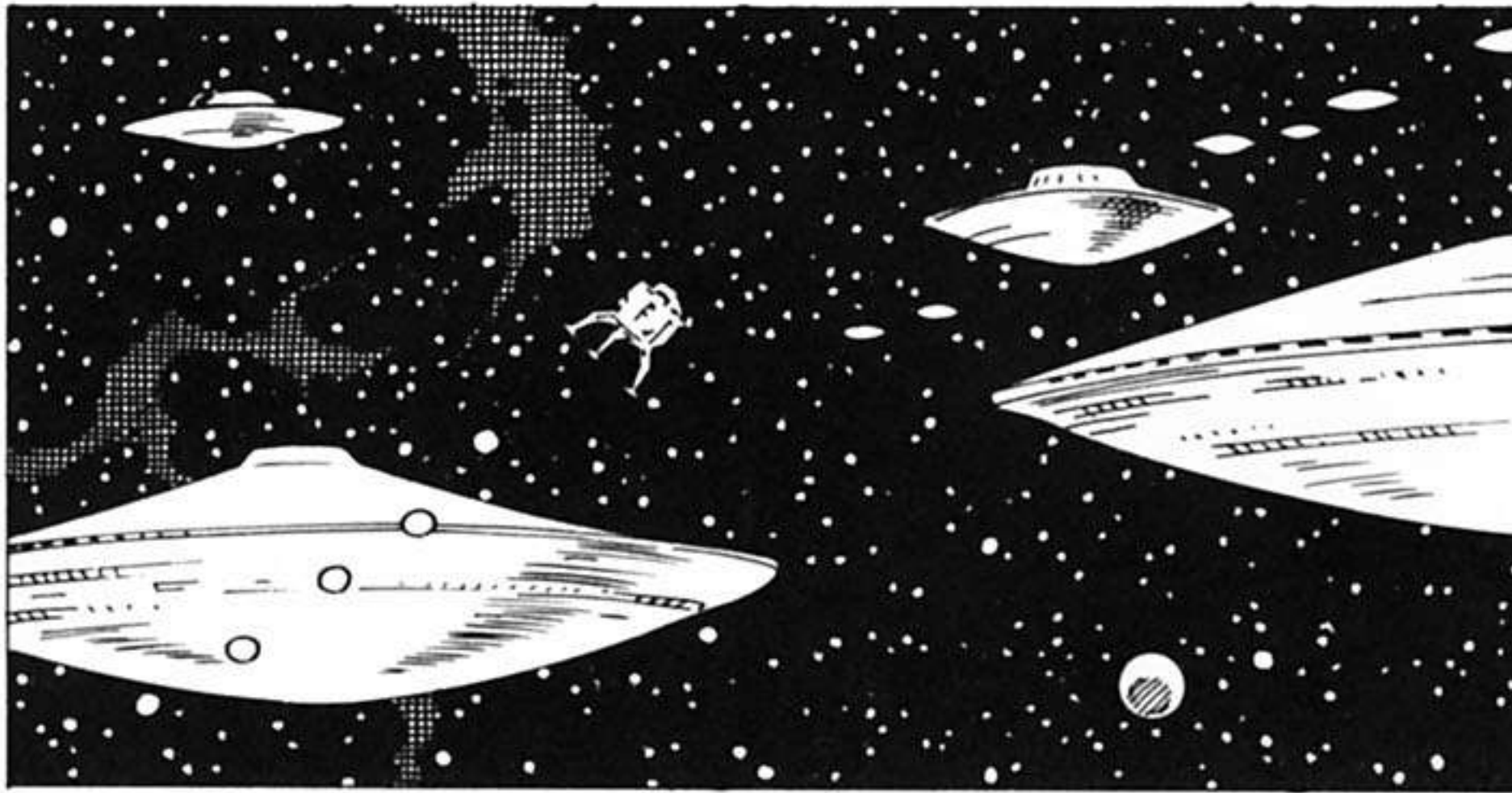


A LANDING BEACON FOR SANTA CLAUS?



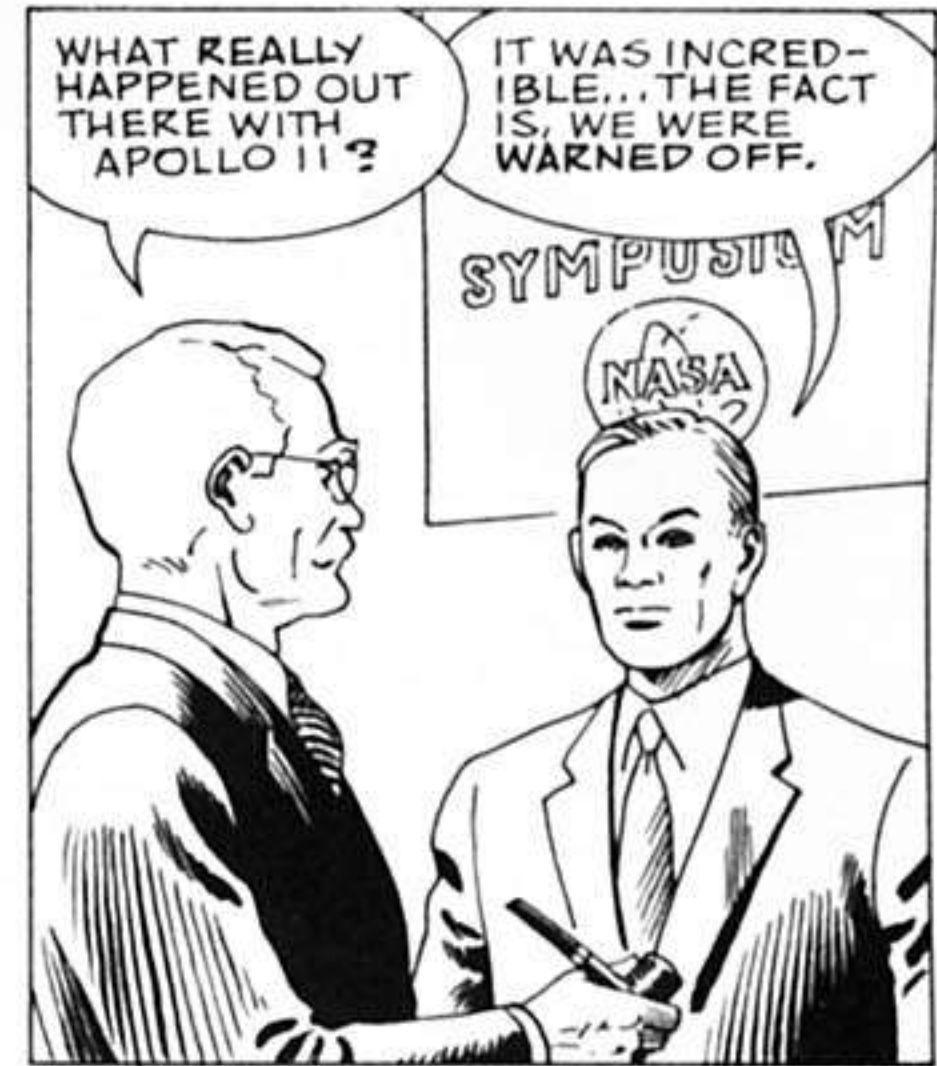


AS QUOTED BY RESEARCHER TIMOTHY GOOD, "AN ANONYMOUS SOURCE WITH SECRET CLEARANCE" CLAIMED SCOTT CARPENTER TOLD HIM THAT "AT NO TIME" WERE THE ASTRONAUTS ALONE IN SPACE.

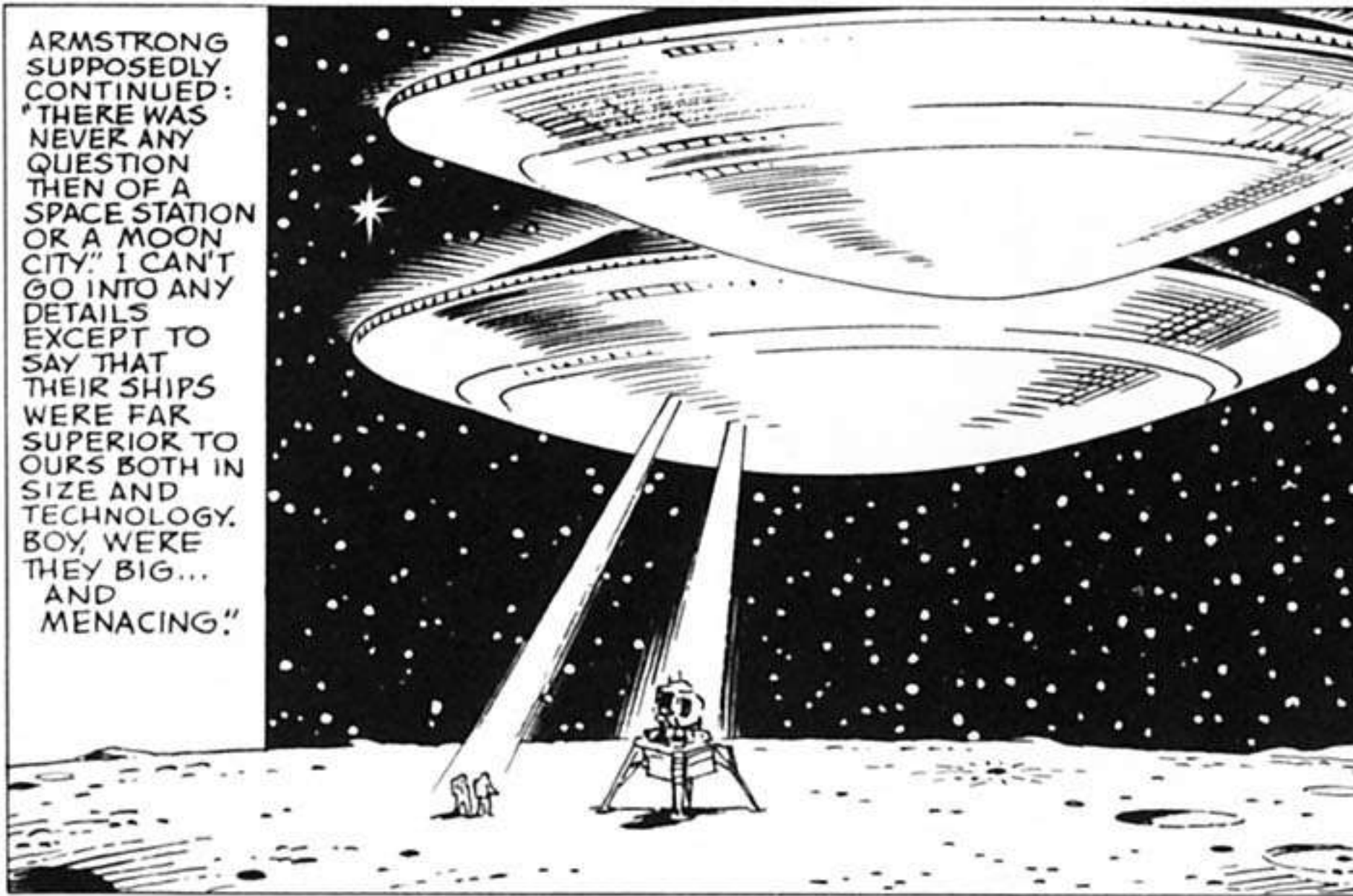


ACCORDING TO DR. GARRY HENDERSON OF GENERAL DYNAMICS, WHILE NASA "HAS MANY ACTUAL PHOTOS" OF E.T. CRAFT "TAKEN AT CLOSE RANGE," THE ASTRO-NAUTS HAVE BEEN SWORN TO A STRICT POLICY OF SILENCE.

THIS POLICY WAS ALLEGEDLY BROKEN BY NEIL ARMSTRONG HIMSELF IN CONVERSATION WITH AN UNNAMED PROFESSOR:



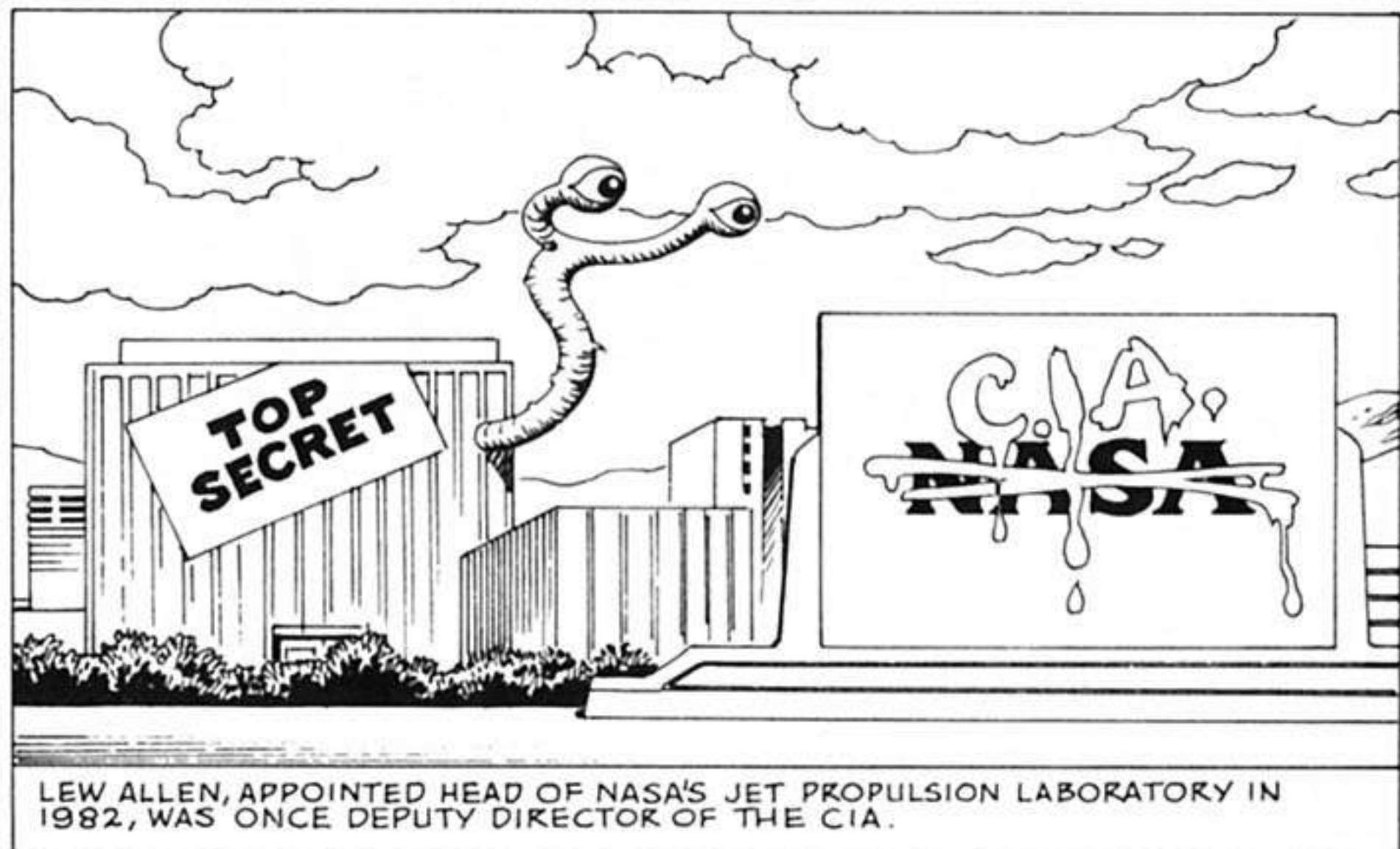
ARMSTRONG SUPPOSEDLY CONTINUED: "THERE WAS NEVER ANY QUESTION THEN OF A SPACE STATION OR A MOON CITY." I CAN'T GO INTO ANY DETAILS EXCEPT TO SAY THAT THEIR SHIPS WERE FAR SUPERIOR TO OURS BOTH IN SIZE AND TECHNOLOGY. BOY, WERE THEY BIG... AND MENACING."



PUBLICLY, NEIL ARMSTRONG HAS THIS TO SAY:



BUT THE ANONYMOUS PROFESSOR INSISTS THAT ARMSTRONG LATER ADMITTED TO A COVER-UP ORCHESTRATED BY THE CIA.



LEW ALLEN, APPOINTED HEAD OF NASA'S JET PROPULSION LABORATORY IN 1982, WAS ONCE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE CIA.



SOMEONE ELSE MAY HAVE TRIED TO SILENCE APOLLO 17 ASTRONAUT EUGENE CERNAN AND HARRISON SCHMITT WHEN THEIR LUNAR ROVER'S HIGH-GAIN ANTENNA EXPLODED.



SOMETHING FLYING OVER JUST BEFORE IT'S STILL--

GOD! I THOUGHT WE'D BEEN HIT BY A-- BY A--LOOK AT THAT STUFF!

LATER, AT A 1973 PRESS CONFERENCE, CERNAN RATHER CRYPTICALLY REMARKED:



I'M ONE OF THOSE GUYS WHO HAS NEVER SEEN A UFO, BUT I'VE BEEN ASKED-- --AND I'VE SAID PUBLICLY I THOUGHT THEY WERE SOMEBODY ELSE, SOME OTHER CIVILIZATION.

THE AMERICANS AND THE SOVIETS BOTH ENDED THEIR MOON PROGRAMS WITHIN A SIX-MONTH SPAN IN 1972-73-- THE USA WITH APOLLO 17 AND THE USSR WITH LUNAKHOD 2...



CAN'T HELP BUT WONDER WHY...

WRITERS BRAD STEIGER AND SCOTT CORRALES POINT OUT THAT BEFORE ALL CONTACT WITH LUNAKHOD 2 WAS MYSTERIOUSLY LOST, THE PROBE HAD EXAMINED A HIGHLY UNUSUAL LUNAR FEATURE NEAR THE TAURUS MOUNTAINS.



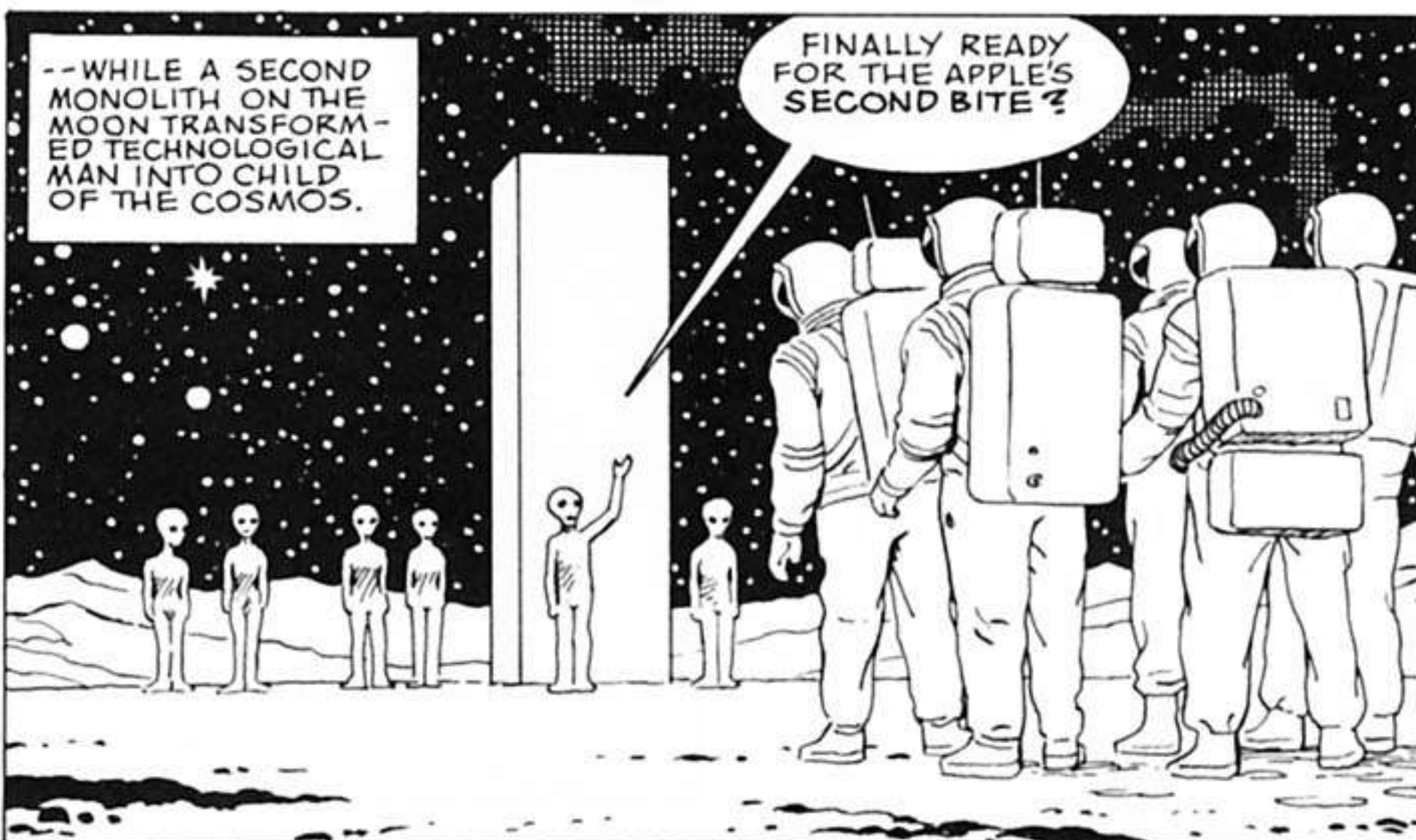
A SMOOTH SLAB OF PRESUMED ROCK WHICH RESEMBLED "A MODERN HOUSE PANEL," IT WAS ALSO REMINISCENT OF THE ALIEN MONOLITH FROM CLARKE AND KUBRICK'S 2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY.

SAID MONOLITH, YOU MAY RECALL, WAS THE TRIGGER FOR CONVERTING INNOCENT APE TO EVOLVED MAN--



THAT'S IT, EARTHLING-- TOUCH THE FORBIDDEN FRUIT.

--WHILE A SECOND MONOLITH ON THE MOON TRANSFORMED TECHNOLOGICAL MAN INTO CHILD OF THE COSMOS.



FINALLY READY FOR THE APPLE'S SECOND BITE?

WAS 2001 PRESCIENT? DID LIFE IMITATE ART? OR, CONTRARY TO MOVIE OPTIMISM, WAS THE REAL-LIFE SLAB SOME SORT OF COSMIC VENDING MACHINE WE REALLY WERE FORBIDDEN TO TOUCH?



BARELY NOTICED AMIDST 1994'S MORE IMPORTANT NEWS, NASA RE-SUMED ITS MOON PROGRAM WITH AN UNMANNED PROBE NAMED 'CLEMENTINE.'

HEY IF BANK TELLERS CAN BE REPLACED BY CASH MACHINES, WHY NOT ASTRONAUTS BY ROBOTS?



AS RESEARCHER GEORGE ANDREWS POINTS OUT, CLEMENTINE'S PRICETAG (NEARLY HALF THE BUDGET OF WATER-WORLD) SHOULD HAVE CAUGHT OUR ATTENTION-AND YET OUR RETURN TO THE MOON MIGHT AS WELL BE A SECRET.



BUT WHY ARE WE GOING BACK NOW-SO LONG AFTER WE WERE SUPPOSEDLY 'WARNED OFF?'

HAS THE DANGER PASSED-OR HAVE WE LOST OUR FEAR?



THE ANSWER MAY LIE IN THE NATURE OF CLEMENTINE'S MISSION-TO TEST 'DEFENSIVE HARDWARE' SPUN OFF FROM THE SDI 'STAR WARS' PROGRAM.



OR ARE WE FINALLY READY TO EVICT THE MOON'S PRESENT TENANTS?

MAYBE SO-BUT IT MAY BE WISE TO REMEMBER THE WORDS OF THAT OLD SONG--



--OH M'DARLIN' CLEMENTINE! YOU ARE LOST AND GONE FOREVER, DREADFUL SORRY, CLEMENTINE!



INDEED, BEFORE CLEMENTINE COULD COMPLETE HER MISSION, ALL CONTACT WAS LOST WHEN SHE FELL INTO A USELESS SOLAR ORBIT--

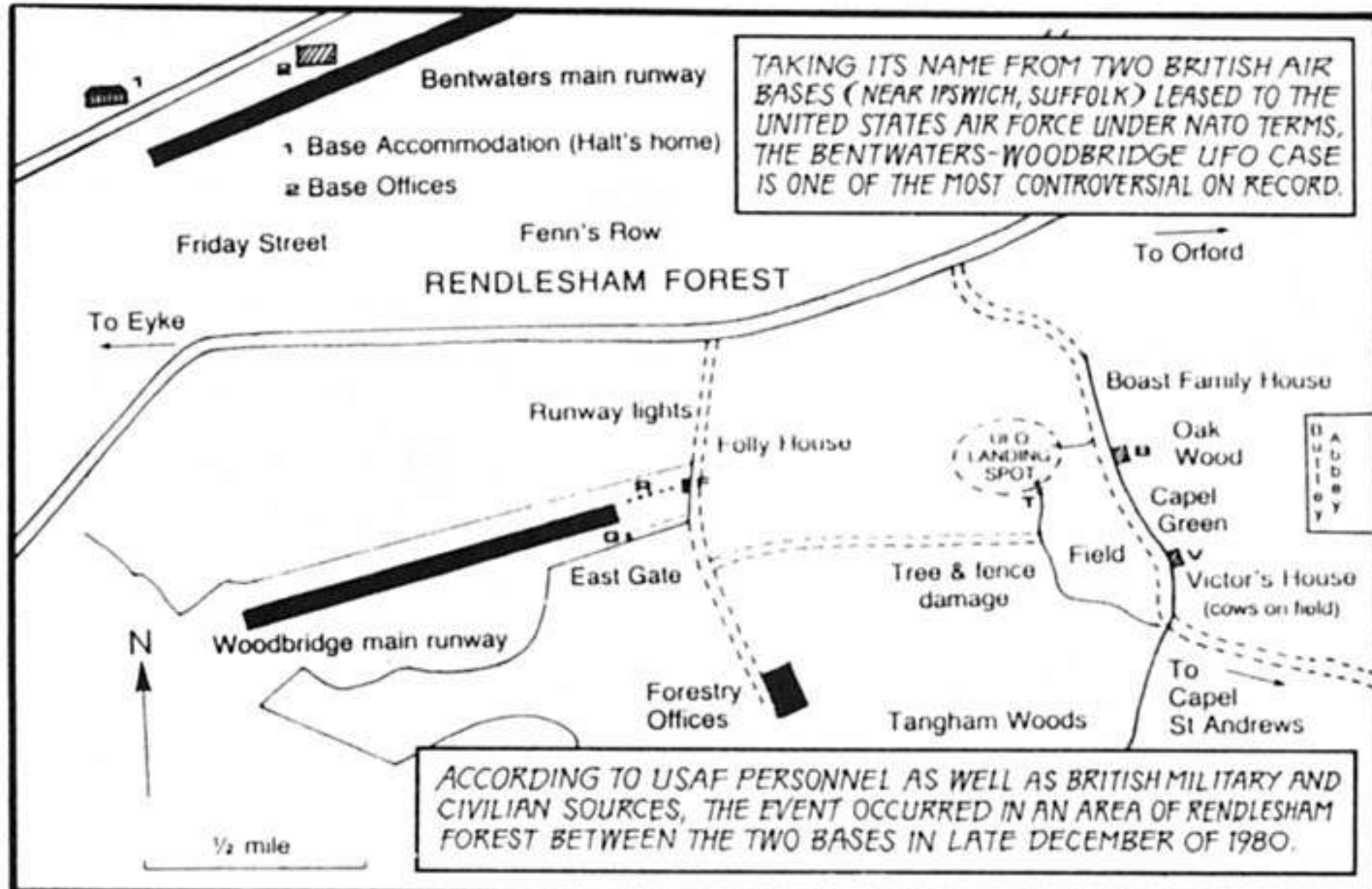
--VICTIMIZED EITHER BY NASA INCOMPETENCE-OR BY LUNAR FORCES STILL MORE THAN A MATCH FOR ANY TRESPASSER!





TO HELL WITH DAMNED SCIENCE AND FULL SPEED AHEAD. AS WE IMMERSE OURSELVES IN THE--

# WATERS OF BENT REALITY



THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNT, AS REPORTED BY RESEARCHERS JENNY RANGLES, TIMOTHY GOOD, RAYMOND BOECHE, AND LAWRENCE FAWCETT, IS PIECED TOGETHER FROM THE STATEMENTS OF SOME THIRTY PROFESSED WITNESSES.



WHILE THE PRECISE SEQUENCE OF EVENTS IS DIFFICULT TO DETERMINE (AND MAY INVOLVE TWO SEPARATE NIGHTS), THE INCIDENT BEGAN WHEN TWO USAF SECURITY MEN AT WOODBRIDGE SPOTTED UNUSUAL LIGHTS OVER RENDLESHAM.



ASSUMED TO BE A SMALL PLANE, THE LIGHTS SEEMED TO CRASH.

ACCORDING TO SERGEANT LARRY WARREN, STATIONED AT BENTWATERS, "IT LOOKED LIKE A FIRE IN THE FOREST."



LED BY WOODBRIDGE DEPUTY BASE COMMANDER LT. COL. CHARLES HALT, THREE USAF PERSONNEL ENTERED THE FOREST FOR A CAT-AND-MOUSE GAME WITH A WEIRDLY ELUSIVE RED LIGHT.



BRITISH SQUADRON LEADER (AT BENTWATERS) DONALD MORELAND ADMITTED THE REALITY OF THE CHASE, BUT INITIALLY DOWNPLAYED IT AS "A FEW LIGHTS FLIPPING AMONG THE TREES."

OTHERS WHO JOINED THE HUNT, HOWEVER, WERE FAR LESS DISMISSIVE OF THE ENSUING AND SPECTACULAR "EXPLOSION OF LIGHT."



AIRMAN JOHN BURKROUGHS SAID: "IT WAS INCREDIBLE. YOU CAN NEVER EXPLAIN TO ANYBODY ELSE THE TRUE AWE OF WHAT IT WAS LIKE."

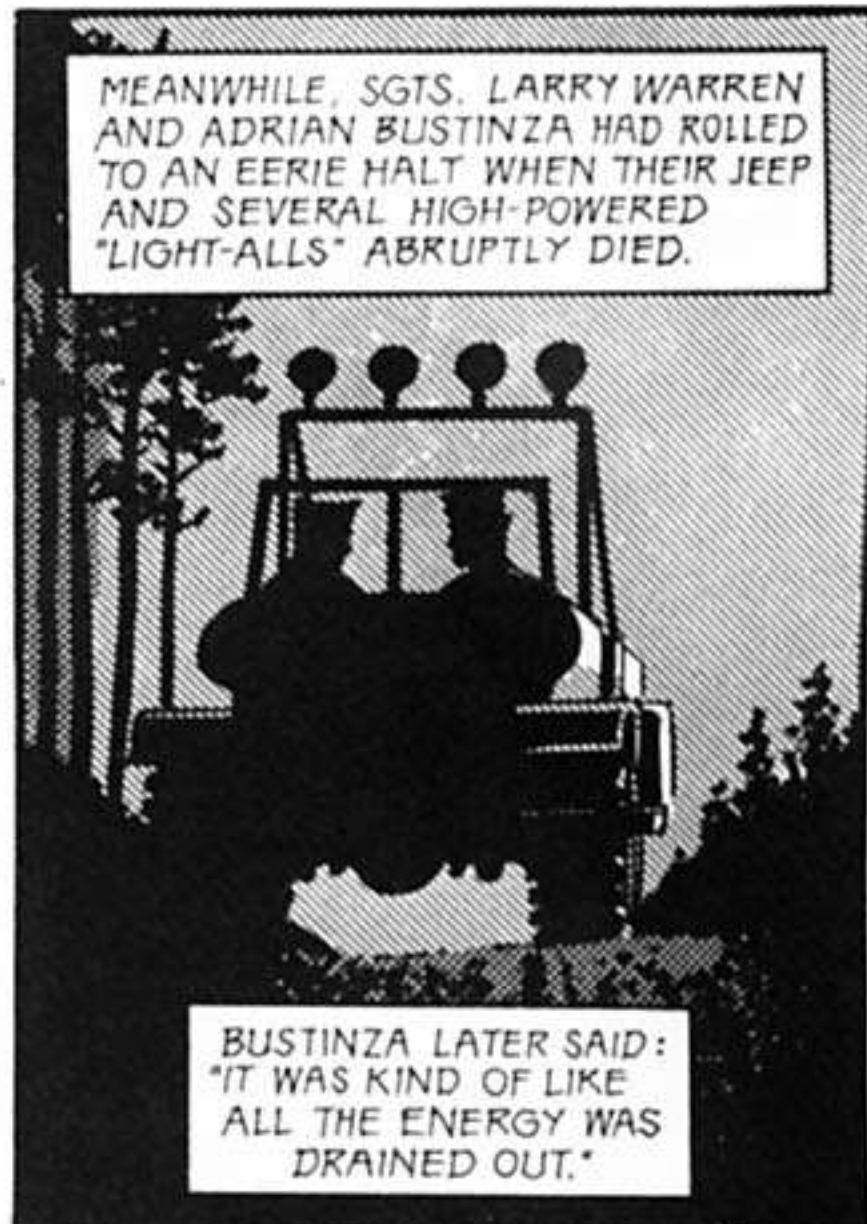






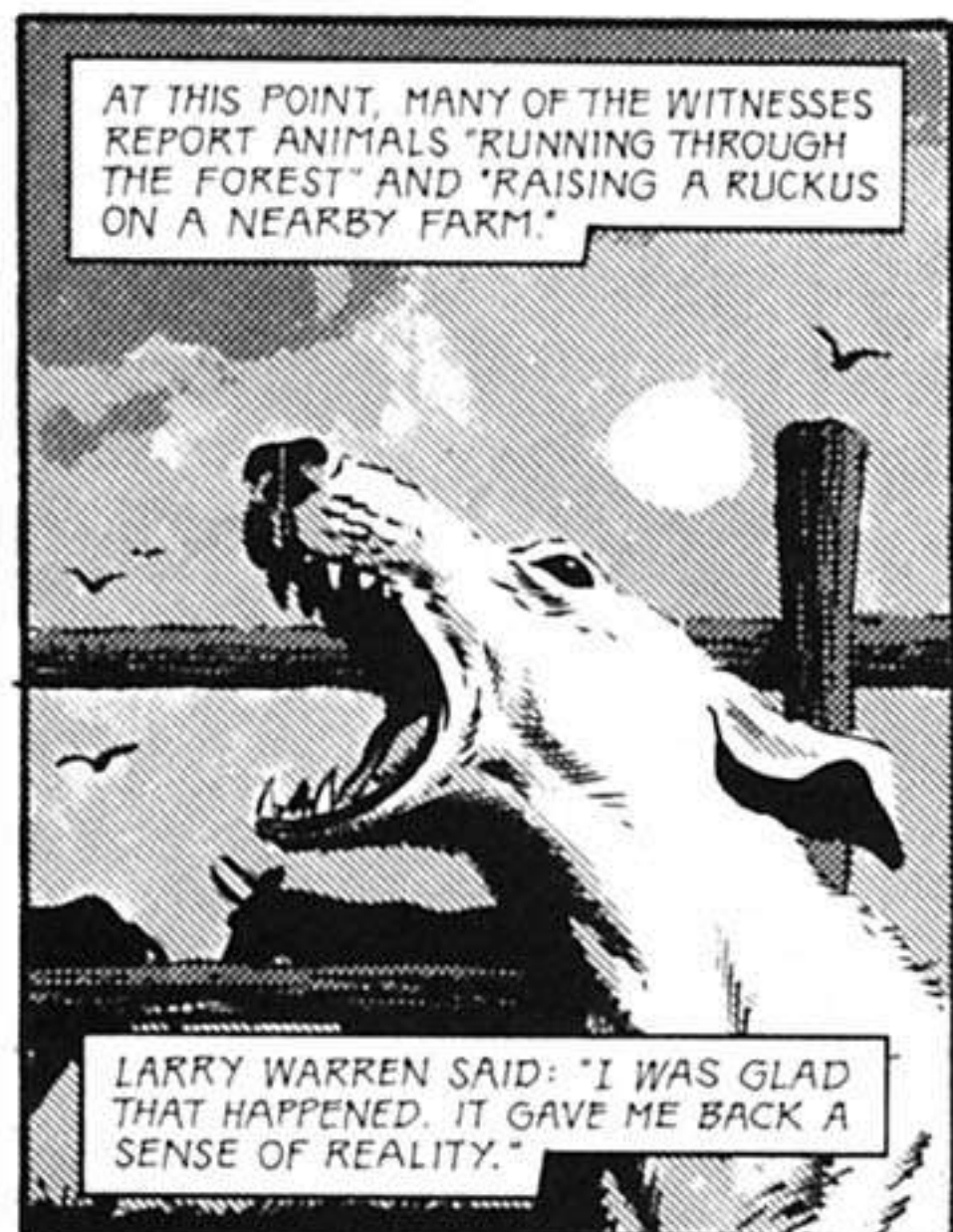
THE "IT" IN QUESTION HAD ABRUPTLY BECOME A "TRIANGULAR" UFO, ACCORDING TO AIRMEN "STEVE ROBERTS" AND "JAMES ARCHER," WITH A RED LIGHT ON TOP AND BLUE AND WHITE LIGHTS AT MIDDLE AND BOTTOM.

"ARCHER" WAS CERTAIN SOMETHING WAS INSIDE, FURTHER CLAIMING "THE SHAPES DID NOT LOOK HUMAN."



MEANWHILE, SGTS. LARRY WARREN AND ADRIAN BUSTINZA HAD ROLLED TO AN EERIE HALT WHEN THEIR JEEP AND SEVERAL HIGH-POWERED "LIGHT-ALLS" ABRUPTLY DIED.

BUSTINZA LATER SAID: "IT WAS KIND OF LIKE ALL THE ENERGY WAS DRAINED OUT."



AT THIS POINT, MANY OF THE WITNESSES REPORT ANIMALS "RUNNING THROUGH THE FOREST" AND "RAISING A RUCKUS ON A NEARBY FARM."

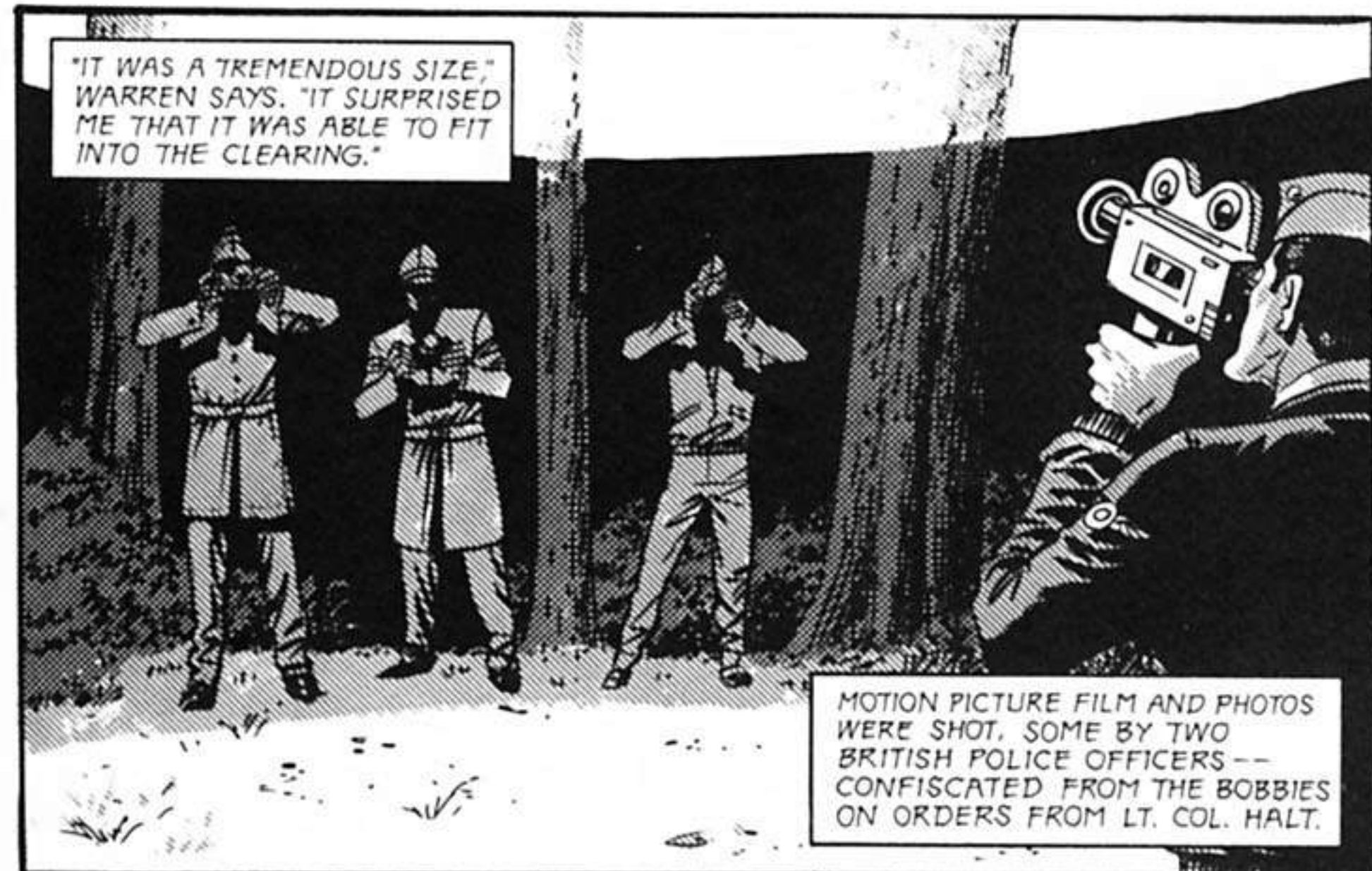
LARRY WARREN SAID: "I WAS GLAD THAT HAPPENED. IT GAVE ME BACK A SENSE OF REALITY."



EN ROUTE TO JOINING THE OTHER SEARCHERS, WARREN AND BUSTINZA ENCOUNTERED A STRANGE YELLOW MIST "LIKE NOTHING (WE'D) EVER SEEN BEFORE."



ENTERING A CLEARING, THEY FOUND AN OBJECT "SUDDENLY JUST THERE"—BUT THE "TRIANGULAR" UFO WAS NOW A "TRANSPARENT ASPIRIN TABLET" FILLED WITH "BRIGHT PULSATING MIST" AND ADORNED WITH "RAINBOW LIGHTS."



"IT WAS A TREMENDOUS SIZE," WARREN SAYS. "IT SURPRISED ME THAT IT WAS ABLE TO FIT INTO THE CLEARING."

MOTION PICTURE FILM AND PHOTOS WERE SHOT, SOME BY TWO BRITISH POLICE OFFICERS — CONFISCATED FROM THE BOBBIES ON ORDERS FROM LT. COL. HALT.



BUSTINZA AND HALT BOTH CLAIM THAT ALL PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORDS OF THE EVENT WERE LATER FLOWN TO USAF EUROPEAN HQ AT RAMSTEIN, WEST GERMANY.

A PENTAGON OFFICIAL ADMITTED IN MARCH 1985 THAT "SOME OF THESE PHOTOS, BUT NOT ALL, WERE FOGGED."



BACK IN THE CLEARING, A RED LIGHT APPROACHED AND THE "ASPIRIN TABLET" ABRUPTLY VANISHED--



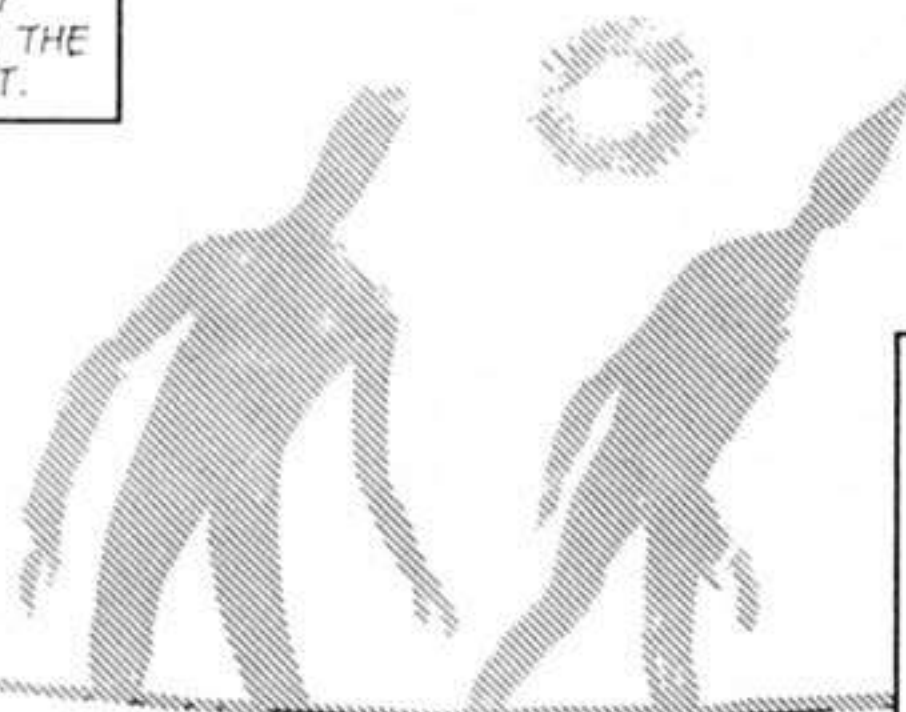
--LEAVING AN INTRICATELY TEXTURED DOMED DISC RESTING ON TRIPOD LEGS.

(THE NEXT DAY, LT. COL. HALT AND OTHER USAF INVESTIGATORS FOUND THREE INDENTATIONS IN THE CLEARING, EACH SLIGHTLY RADIOACTIVE.)



(FRESHLY DAMAGED TREES WERE ALSO DISCOVERED.)

WARREN AND OTHERS WERE FASCINATED BY THEIR WEIRDLY WARPED SHADOWS AS THEY WALKED AROUND THE MYSTERY OBJECT.



A STRANGE BALL OF LIGHT APPEARED ABOVE THE HEAD OF ONE SHADOW, THEN MOVED TO EACH OF THE OTHER SHADOWS "LIKE SOMETHING IN A VIDEO GAME."

MOST BIZARRE OF ALL WAS THE FACT THAT THE SHADOWS WERE SOMEHOW "OUT OF PHASE"--



--AND EACH TIME THE MEN HALTED, THEIR SHADOWS WOULD CONTINUE MOVING ONE MORE PACE.

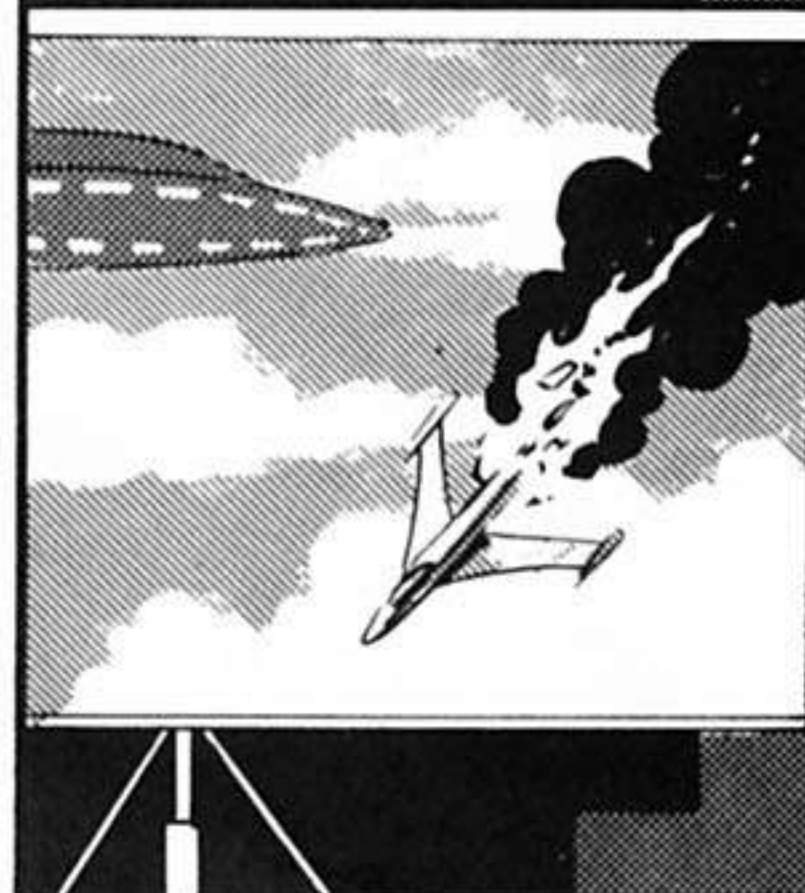
HIS OWN "TIME-TRAVELING SHADOW" WAS THE LAST THING LARRY WARREN REMEMBERED BEFORE WAKING UP IN HIS BAR-RACKS BED THE NEXT MORNING--CAKED IN MUD UP TO THE KNEES.



WARREN SAYS HE WAS TESTED FOR RADIATION AND FORCED TO SIGN A SECRECY OATH--OBVIOUSLY SINCE BROKEN.



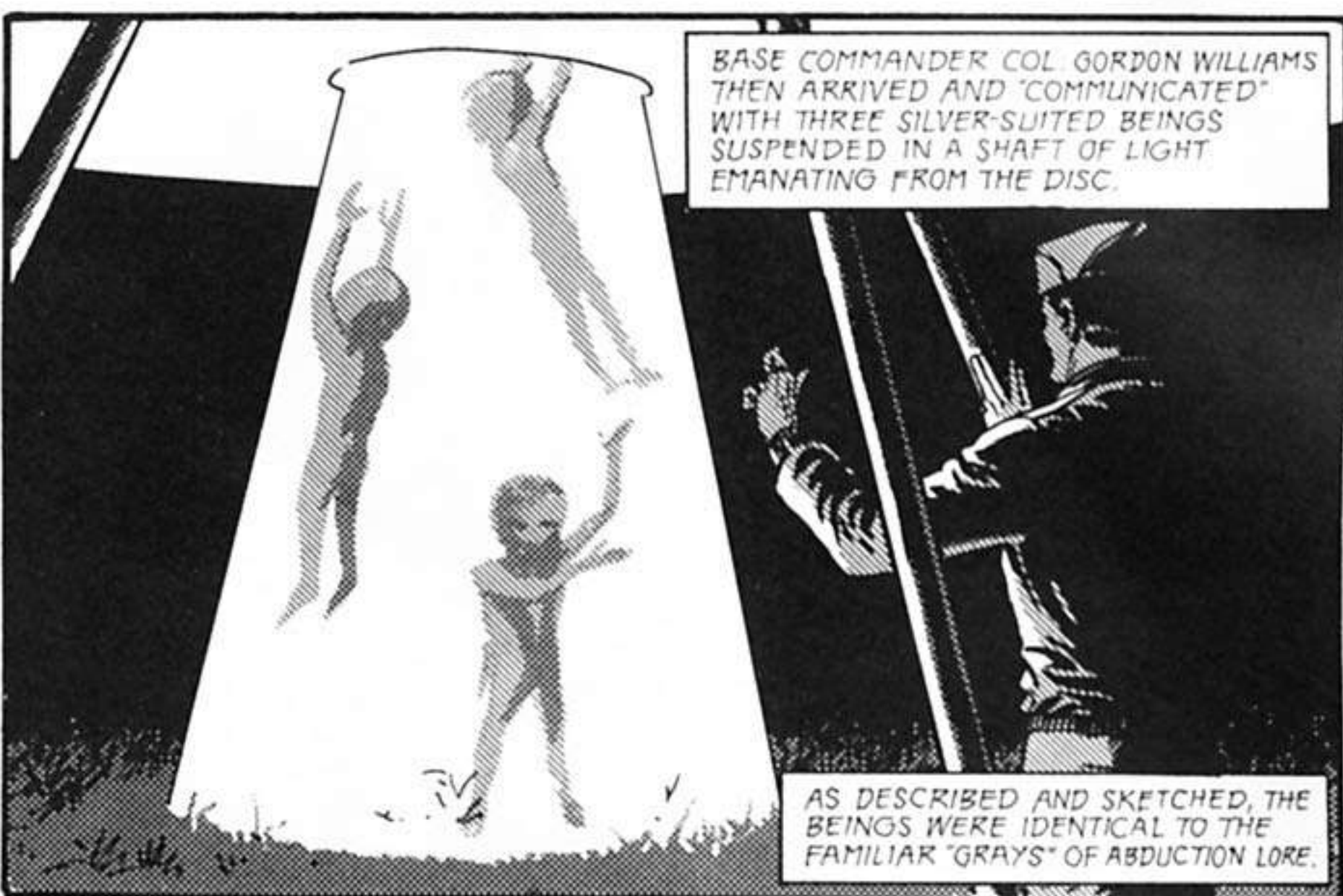
HE AND OTHERS WERE THEN SHOWN HIGH-QUALITY GUN CAMERA FILM OF UFO EVENTS, INCLUDING THE DOWNING OF A SOVIET MIG FIGHTER BY A CLASSIC FLYING SAUCER.





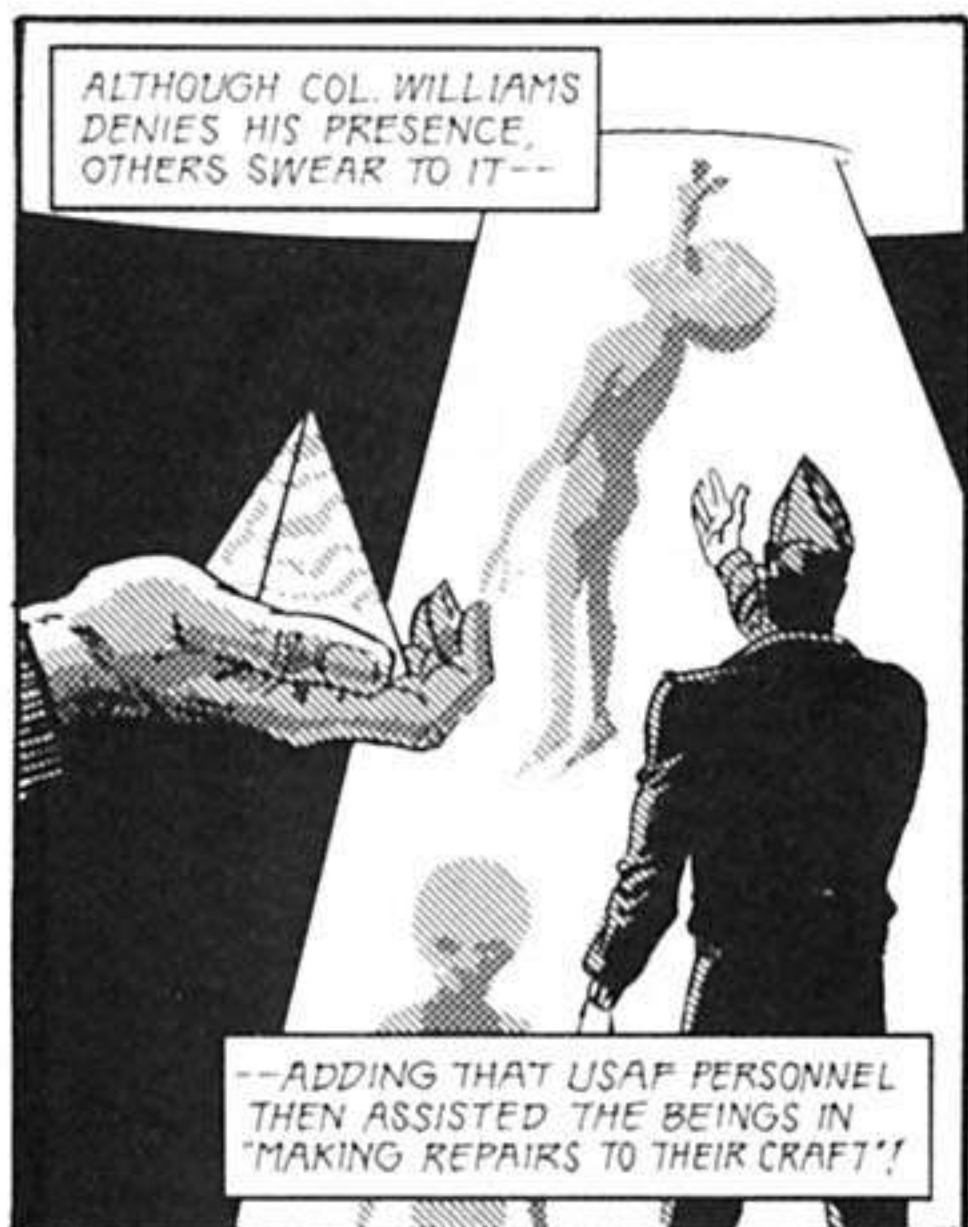


WARREN'S "MISSING TIME" OF THE NIGHT BEFORE IS FILLED IN BY OTHER WITNESSES WHO SAY THEY WERE ORDERED TO FORM A "PERIMETER" AROUND THE OBJECT AT 15-FOOT INTERVALS.



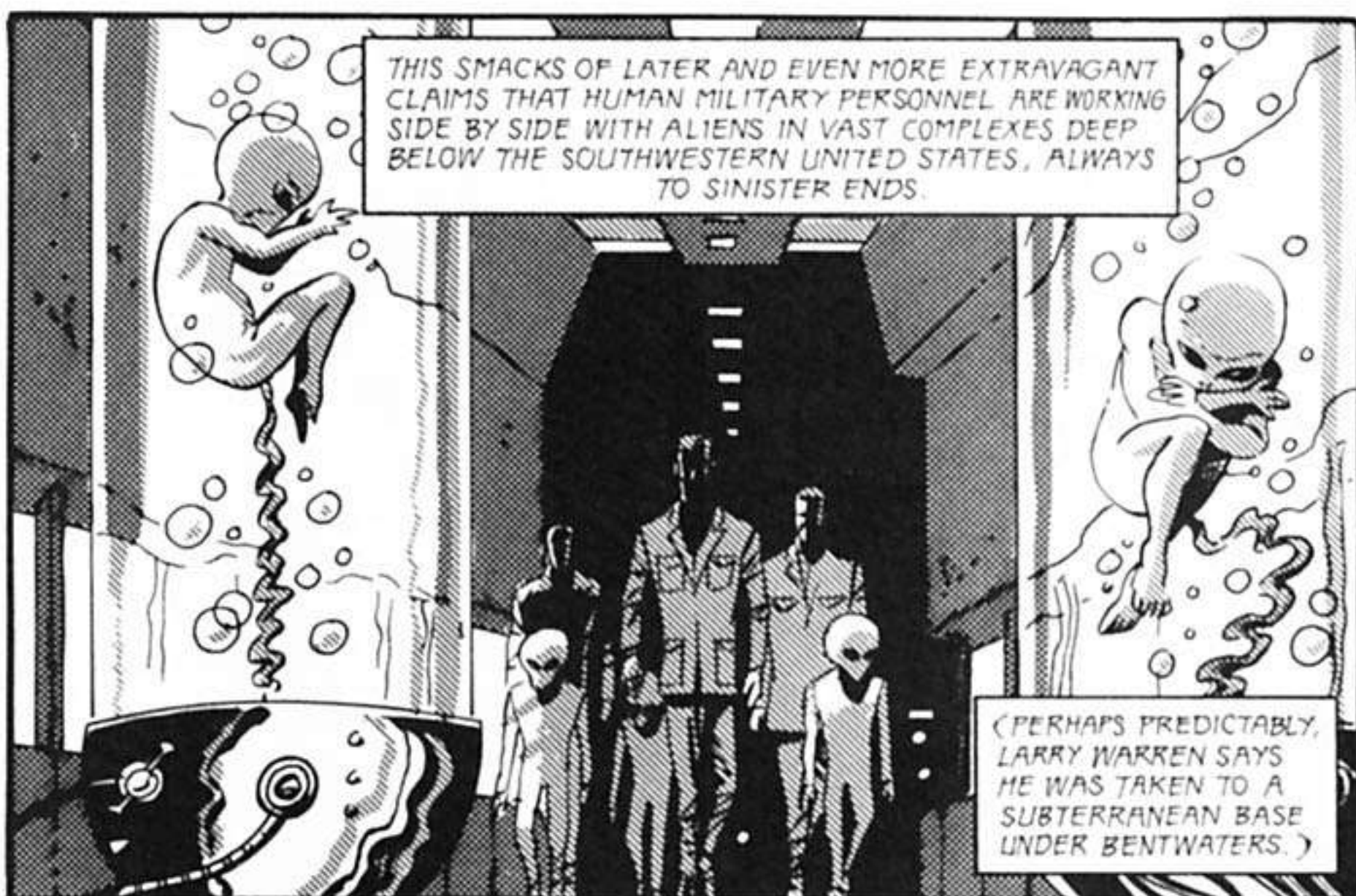
BASE COMMANDER COL. GORDON WILLIAMS THEN ARRIVED AND "COMMUNICATED" WITH THREE SILVER-SUITED BEINGS SUSPENDED IN A SHAFT OF LIGHT EMANATING FROM THE DISC.

AS DESCRIBED AND SKETCHED, THE BEINGS WERE IDENTICAL TO THE FAMILIAR "GRAYS" OF ABDUCTION LORE.



ALTHOUGH COL. WILLIAMS DENIES HIS PRESENCE, OTHERS SWEAR TO IT--

--ADDING THAT USAF PERSONNEL THEN ASSISTED THE BEINGS IN "MAKING REPAIRS TO THEIR CRAFT!"



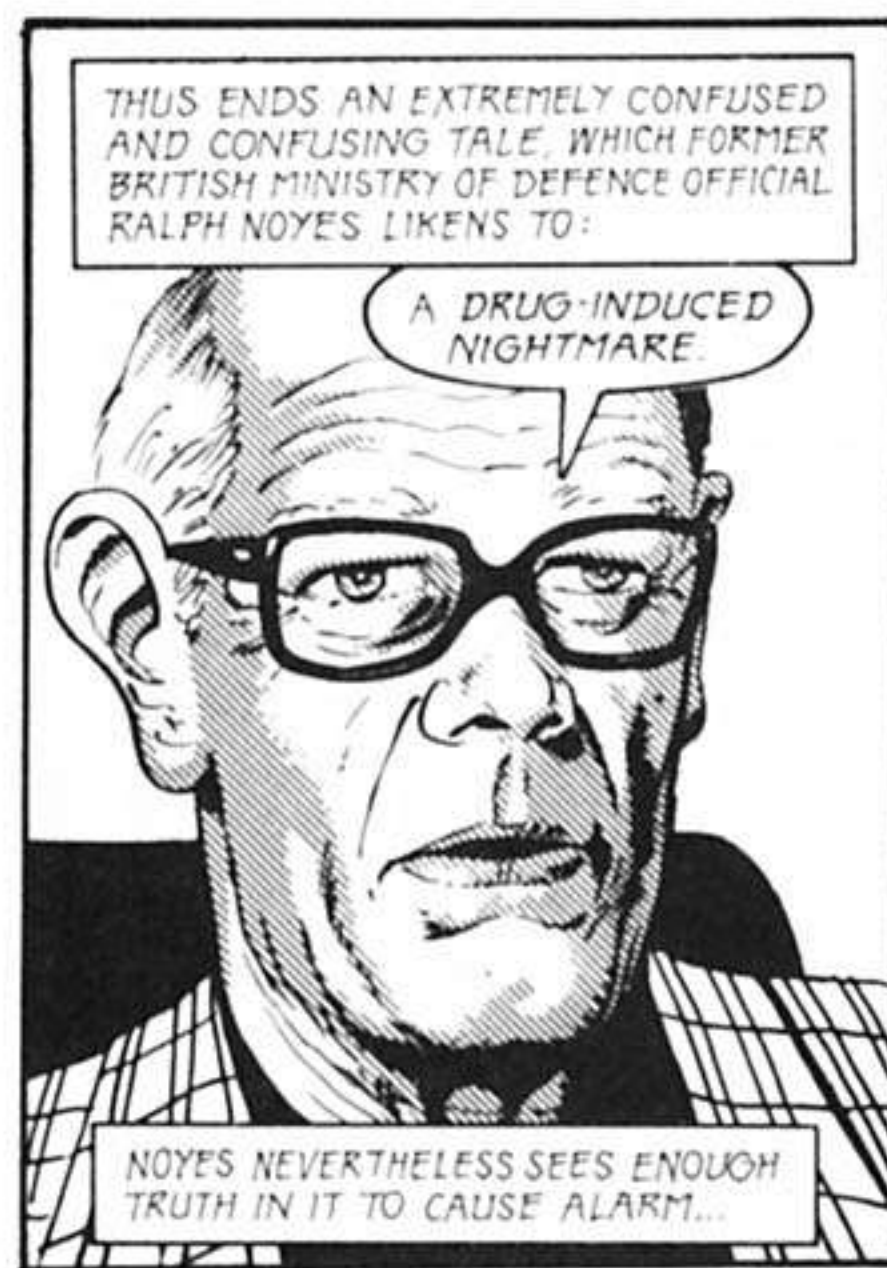
THIS SMACKS OF LATER AND EVEN MORE EXTRAVAGANT CLAIMS THAT HUMAN MILITARY PERSONNEL ARE WORKING SIDE BY SIDE WITH ALIENS IN VAST COMPLEXES DEEP BELOW THE SOUTHWESTERN UNITED STATES, ALWAYS TO SINISTER ENDS.

(PERHAPS PREDICTABLY, LARRY WARREN SAYS HE WAS TAKEN TO A SUBTERRANEAN BASE UNDER BENTWATERS.)



IN ANY CASE, THE ENCOUNTER IN RENDLESHAM CONCLUDED AFTER SOME 30 MINUTES TO AN HOUR WHEN THE OBJECT WAS "GONE IN A FLASH"--

--LEAVING ONLY "A COLD BLAST OF WIND WHICH BLEW FOR FIVE OR TEN SECONDS"... AND, IF WE BELIEVE THE WITNESSES, MORE THAN THIRTY SKULLS CRAMMED WITH NIGHTMARES.



THIS ENDS AN EXTREMELY CONFUSED AND CONFUSING TALE, WHICH FORMER BRITISH MINISTRY OF DEFENCE OFFICIAL RALPH NOYES LIKENS TO:

A DRUG-INDUCED NIGHTMARE.

NOYES NEVERTHELESS SEES ENOUGH TRUTH IN IT TO CAUSE ALARM...



OFFICIAL REACTION TO THE BENTWATERS-  
WOODBIDGE EVENT AMOUNTED TO THE  
STANDARD "NO THREAT TO NATIONAL  
DEFENSE" POSITION--

--UTTER NONSENSE, AS BOTH NOYES  
AND JENNY RANGLES POINT OUT,  
IF THE COLLECTIVE TESTIMONY IS  
ACCURATE, THEREBY CONFIRMING  
UFO REALITY...



EVEN SQUADRON LEADER  
DONALD MORELAND  
EVENTUALLY CONCEDED AN  
"INEXPLICABLE PHENOMENON,"  
STATING THAT WHATEVER  
THE OBJECT WAS, "IT  
PERFORMED FEATS IN THE  
AIR WHICH NO KNOWN  
AIRCRAFT IS CAPABLE  
OF DOING."



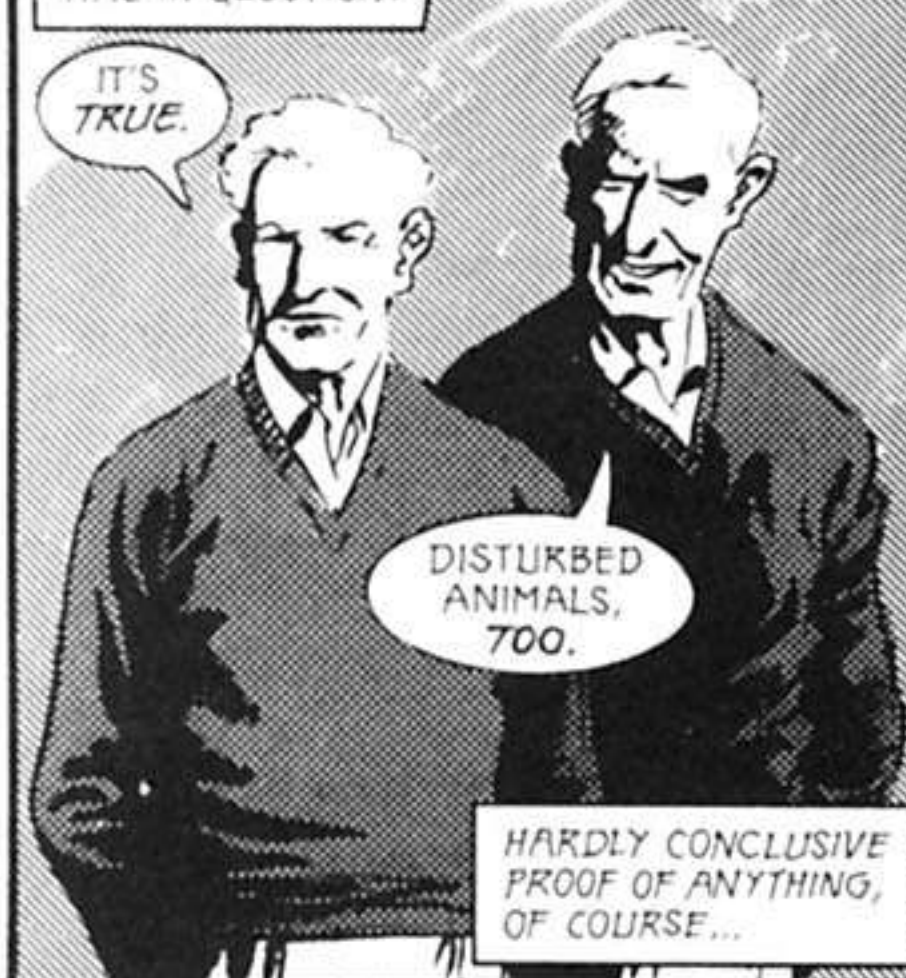
(SUCH AS SPLITTING  
INTO PIECES-- AND  
ZIGZAGGING OFF  
AT HIGH SPEED AND  
ACUTE ANGLES.)

MUCH CLOSER TO HOME, RESEARCHERS BUTLER,  
STREET, AND RANGLES INTERVIEWED LOCAL  
RESIDENTS WHO REPORTED ELECTRIC INTER-  
FERENCE AND MILITARY ACTIVITY AT THE  
TIME IN QUESTION.

IT'S  
TRUE.

DISTURBED  
ANIMALS,  
TOO.

HARDLY CONCLUSIVE  
PROOF OF ANYTHING,  
OF COURSE...



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR  
SQUADRON LEADER DONALD MORELAND  
APO NEW YORK 0955  
of 27 Dec 80 (approximate)  
unusual lights out  
craft might have

BUT THEN, IN RESPONSE TO A  
1983 FREEDOM OF INFORMATION  
REQUEST, THE FIRST OF TWO  
OFFICIALLY VERIFIED BOMBHELLS  
BLEW THE BENTWATERS CASE  
WIDE OPEN.



INDEED, THE "HALT MEMO" VERIFIES  
MUCH OF THE PRECEDING NARRATIVE,  
ALBET WITHOUT FEATURING  
COL. WILLIAMS AND HIS ALIEN PALS.

...AND EQUAL NONSENSE IF THE  
TESTIMONY IS FALSE, THEREBY  
ENTRUSTING NATO SECURITY TO THE  
WHIMS OF HALLUCINATING MADMEN.



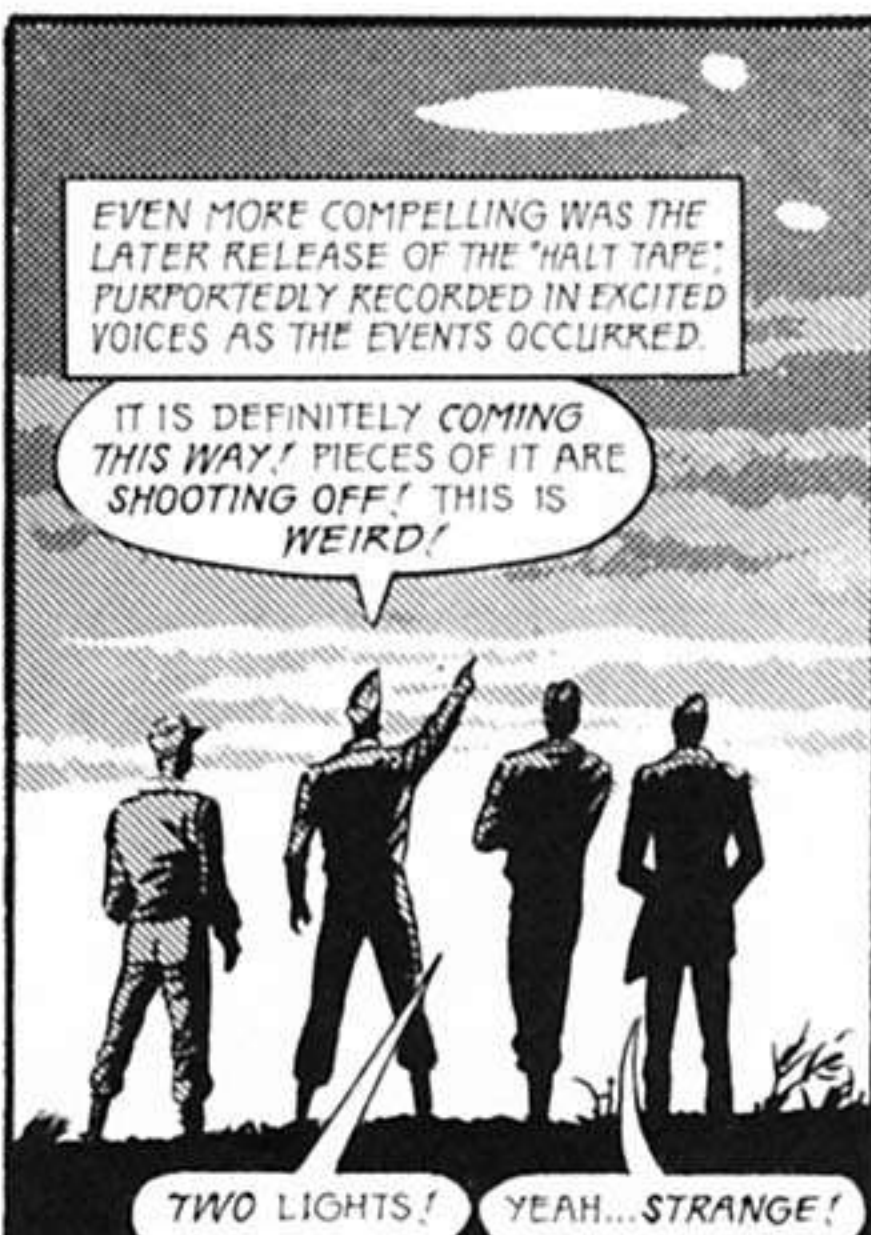
EITHER ALTERNATIVE, OF COURSE, CON-  
STITUTES A SEVERE THREAT TO SECURITY.

SINCE THIS WAS CLEARLY UNACCEPTABLE,  
BRITISH SCIENCE WRITER IAN KIDPATH  
SAVED THE DAY BY BLAMING THE WHOLE  
MESS ON ORFORD NESS-- A LIGHTHOUSE  
FIVE MILES AWAY ON THE SUFFOLK COAST.



EVEN MORE COMPELLING WAS THE  
LATER RELEASE OF THE "HALT TAPE,"  
PURPORTEDLY RECORDED IN EXCITED  
VOICES AS THE EVENTS OCCURRED.

IT IS DEFINITELY COMING  
THIS WAY! PIECES OF IT ARE  
SHOOTING OFF! THIS IS  
WEIRD!





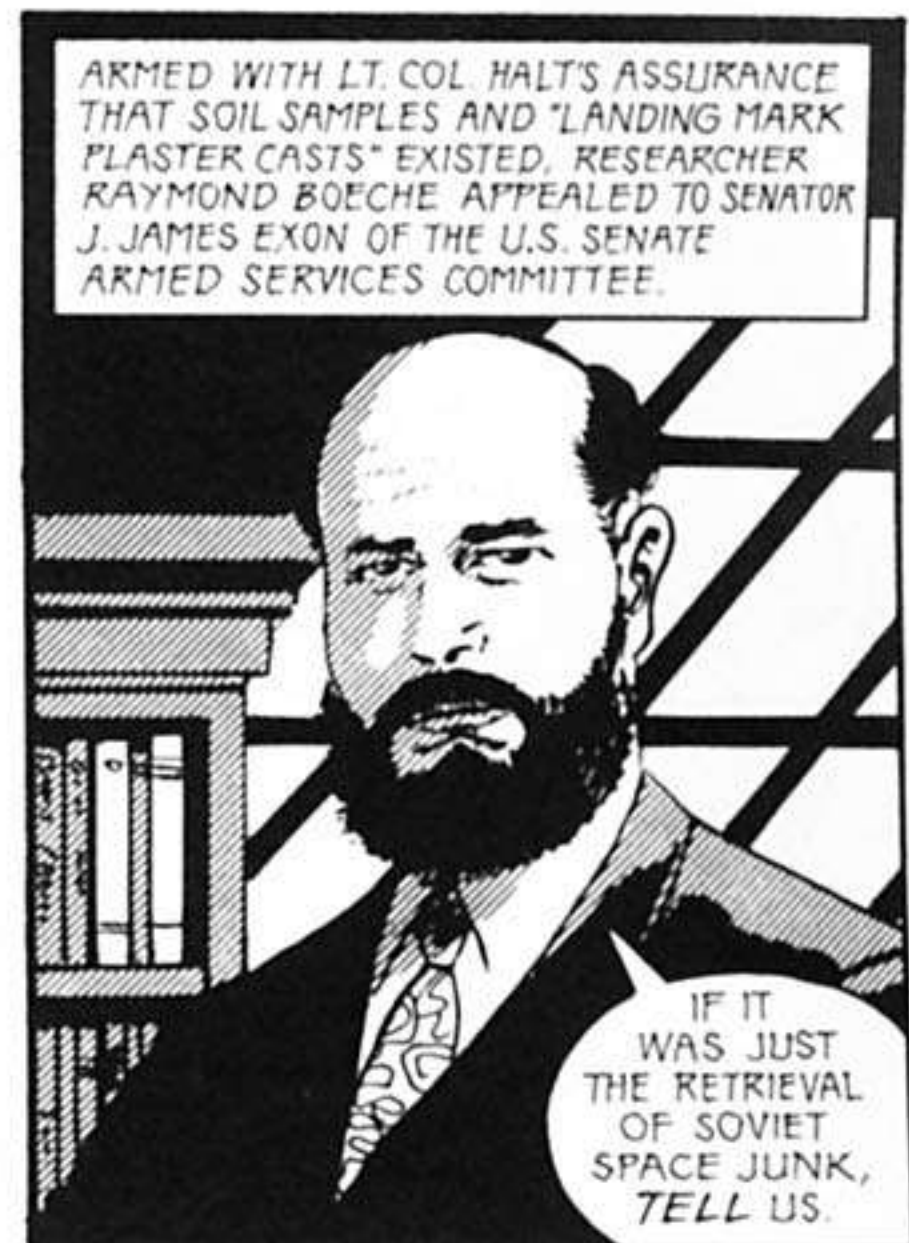


LATER ON THE TAPE:

NOW WE'RE OBSERVING WHAT APPEARS TO BE A BEAM COMING DOWN TO THE GROUND. THIS IS UNREAL!

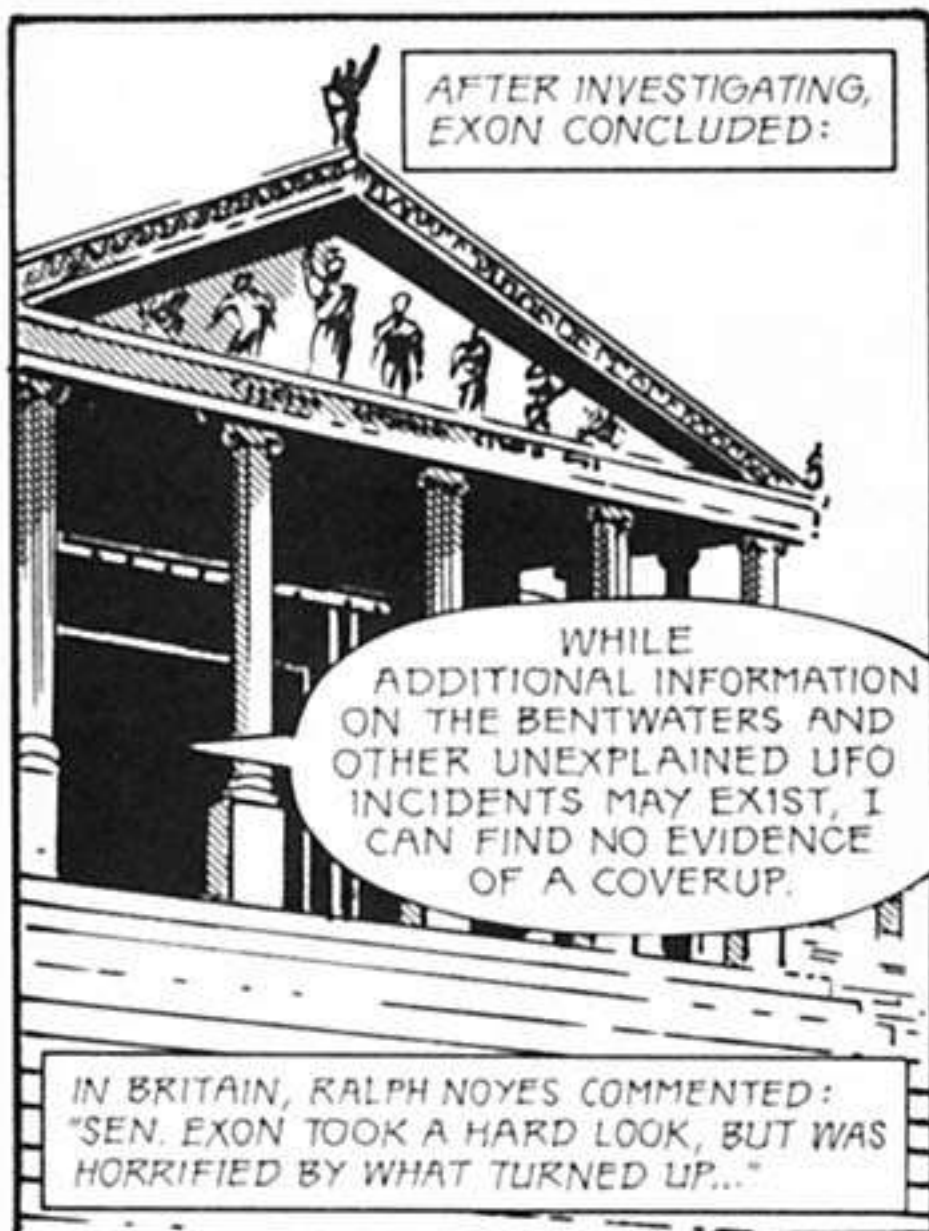
THE ONE TO THE SOUTH LOOKS LIKE IT'S LOSING ALTITUDE...

HEAVILY EDITED BEFORE RELEASE, THE 18-MINUTE TAPE SPANS SEVERAL HOURS OF ACTUAL TIME — SO, WHAT'S MISSING?



ARMED WITH LT. COL. HALT'S ASSURANCE THAT SOIL SAMPLES AND "LANDING MARK PLASTER CASTS" EXISTED, RESEARCHER RAYMOND BOECHE APPEALED TO SENATOR J. JAMES EXON OF THE U.S. SENATE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE.

IF IT WAS JUST THE RETRIEVAL OF SOVIET SPACE JUNK, TELL US.



AFTER INVESTIGATING, EXON CONCLUDED:

WHILE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE BENTWATERS AND OTHER UNEXPLAINED UFO INCIDENTS MAY EXIST, I CAN FIND NO EVIDENCE OF A COVERUP.

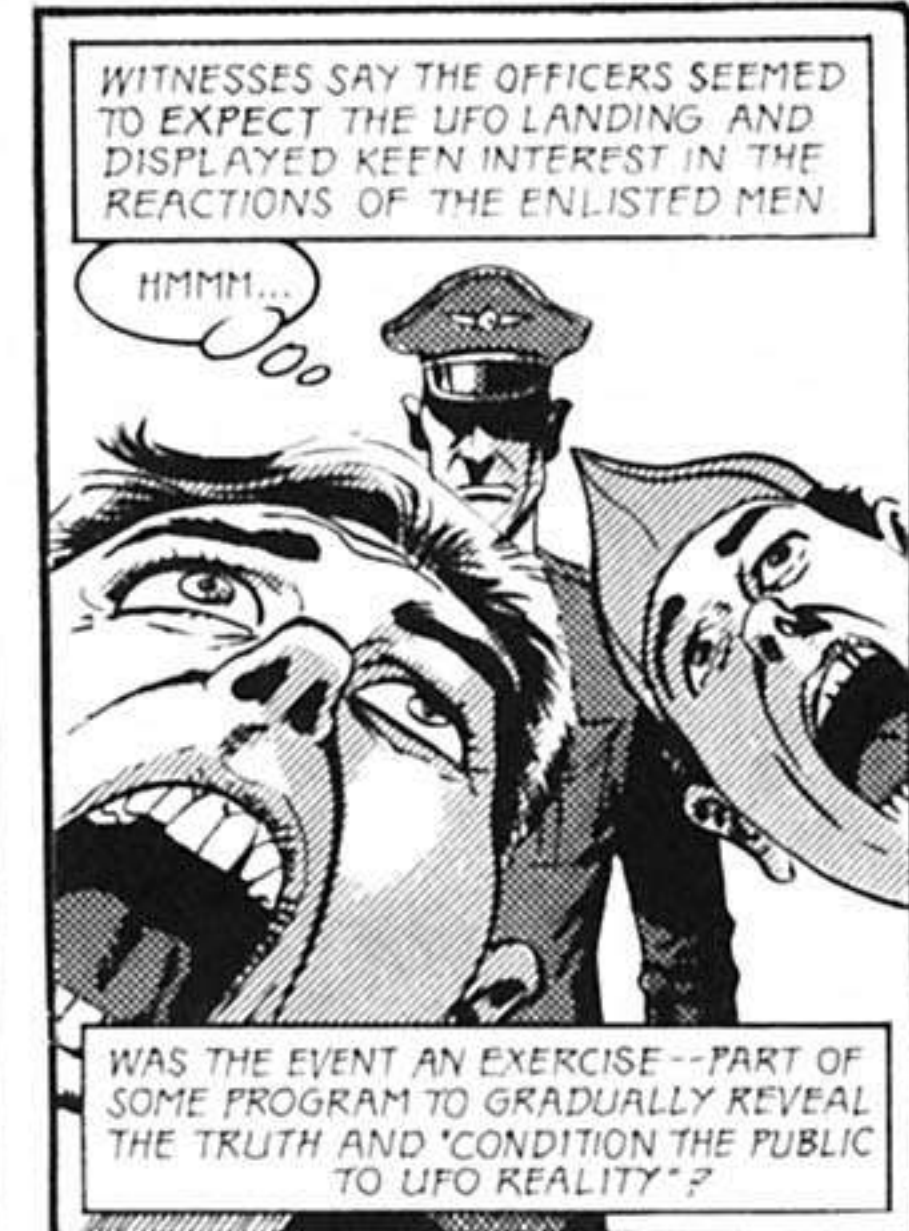
IN BRITAIN, RALPH NOYES COMMENTED: "SEN. EXON TOOK A HARD LOOK, BUT WAS HORRIFIED BY WHAT TURNED UP..."



GIVEN THE SEQUENCE OF DELIBERATE LEAKS, RELEASES, AND ESCALATING REVELATIONS — ALL IN STARK CONTRAST TO TYPICAL DEBUNKING AND "TOP SECRET" REBUFS — JENNY RANGLES WONDERS:

WAS IT ALL A STAGE SHOW?

AND IF SO, PERPETRATED BY WHOM? GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS? ALIENS? OR BOTH?



WITNESSES SAY THE OFFICERS SEEMED TO EXPECT THE UFO LANDING AND DISPLAYED KEEN INTEREST IN THE REACTIONS OF THE ENLISTED MEN

HMMM...

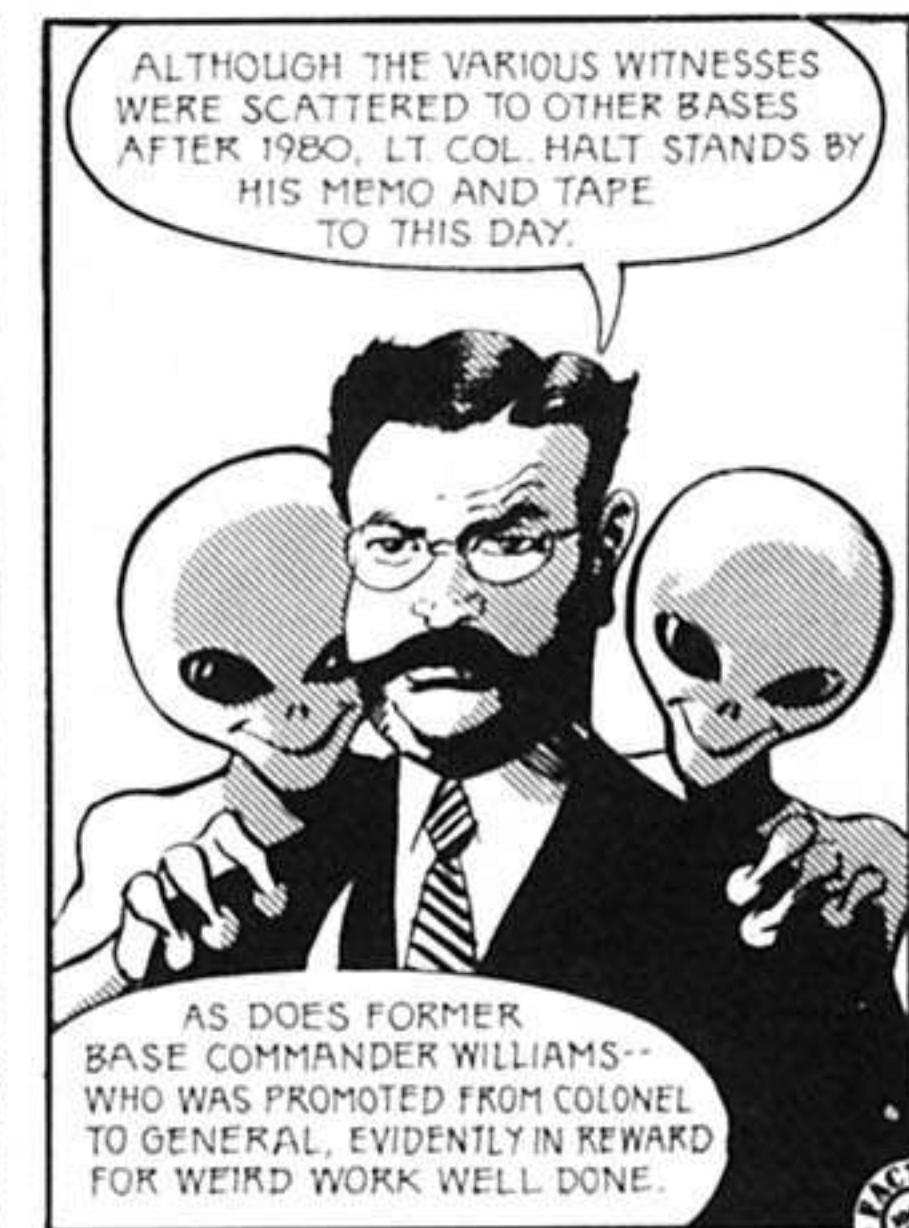
WAS THE EVENT AN EXERCISE — PART OF SOME PROGRAM TO GRADUALLY REVEAL THE TRUTH AND "CONDITION THE PUBLIC TO UFO REALITY"?



OR WAS THE WHOLE THING NOTHING BUT DISINFORMATION DESIGNED TO COVER THE TEST OF NEW TECHNOLOGY AND/OR AN EMBARRASSING ACCIDENT?

OOPS. BREAK OUT THE UFO COVER STORY, BOYS — AND BETTER GET THE GEIGER COUNTERS TOO!

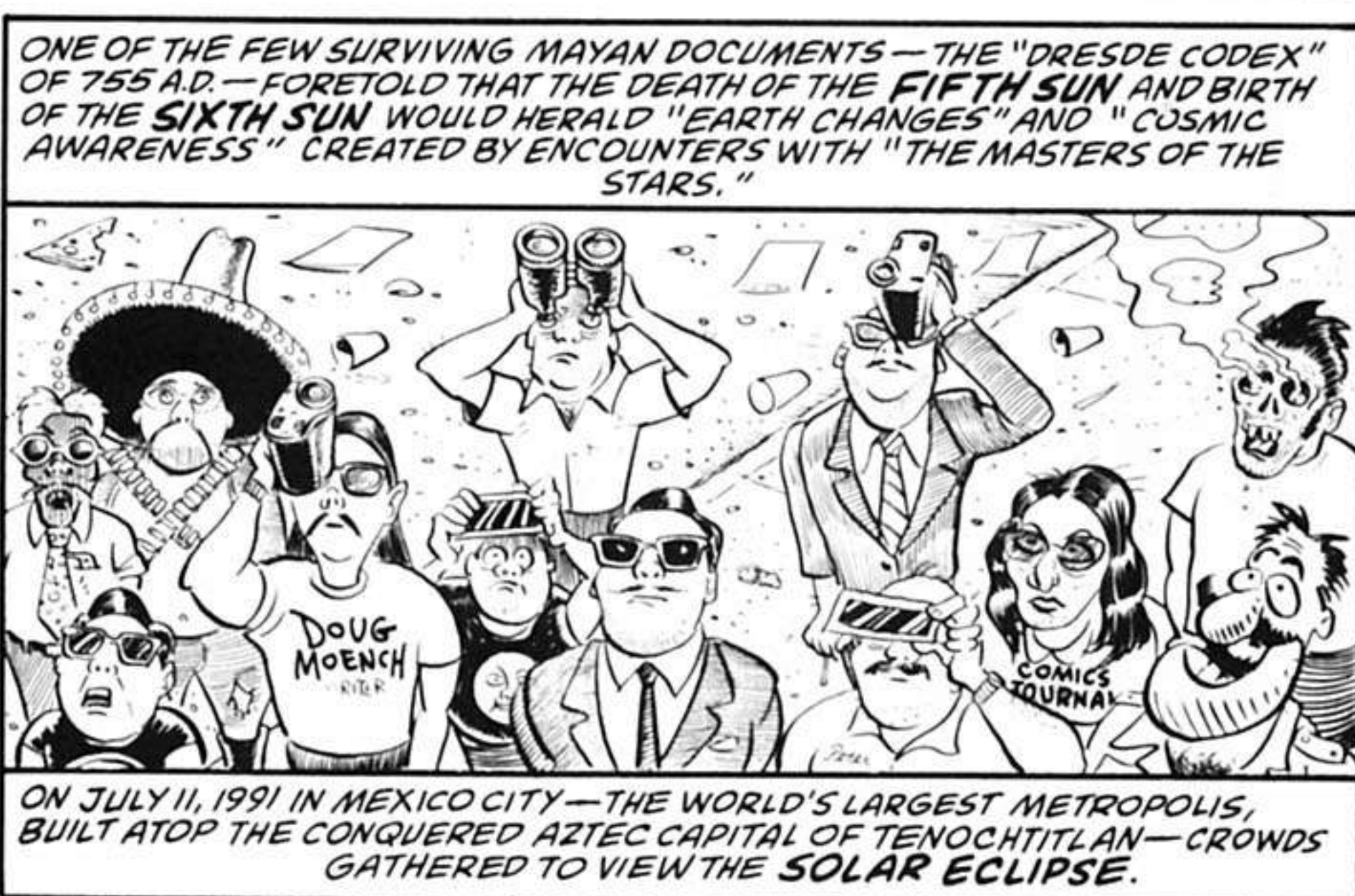
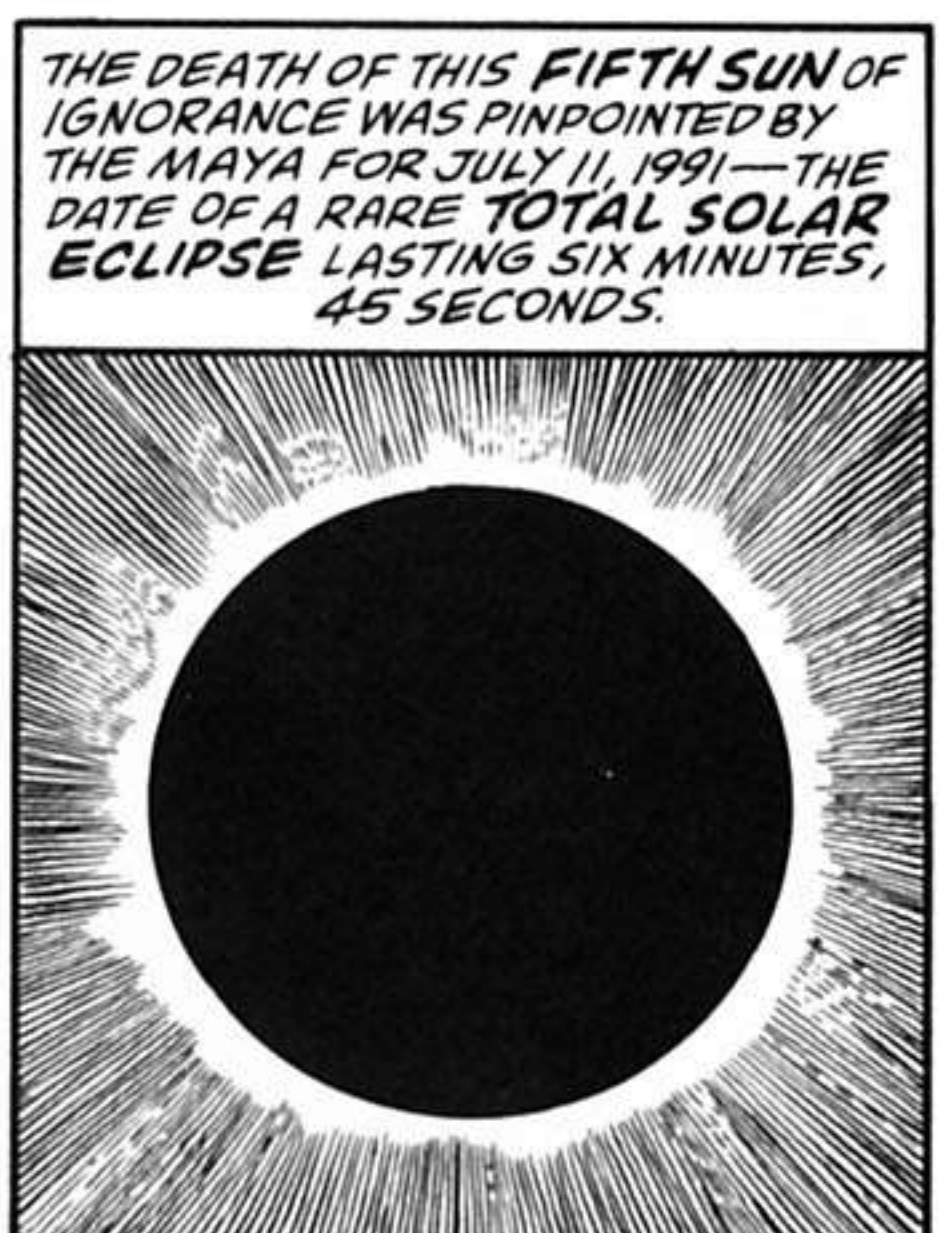
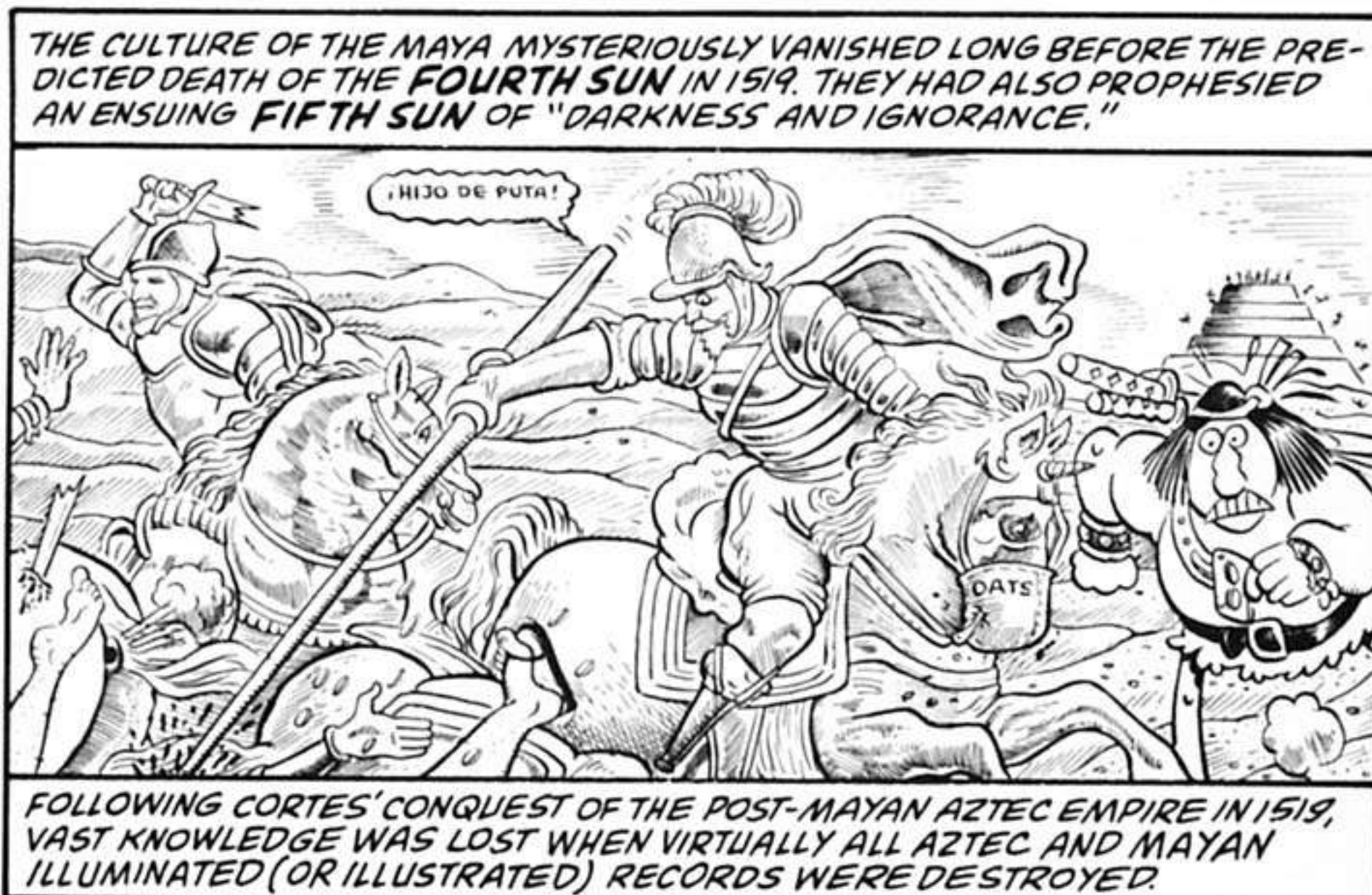
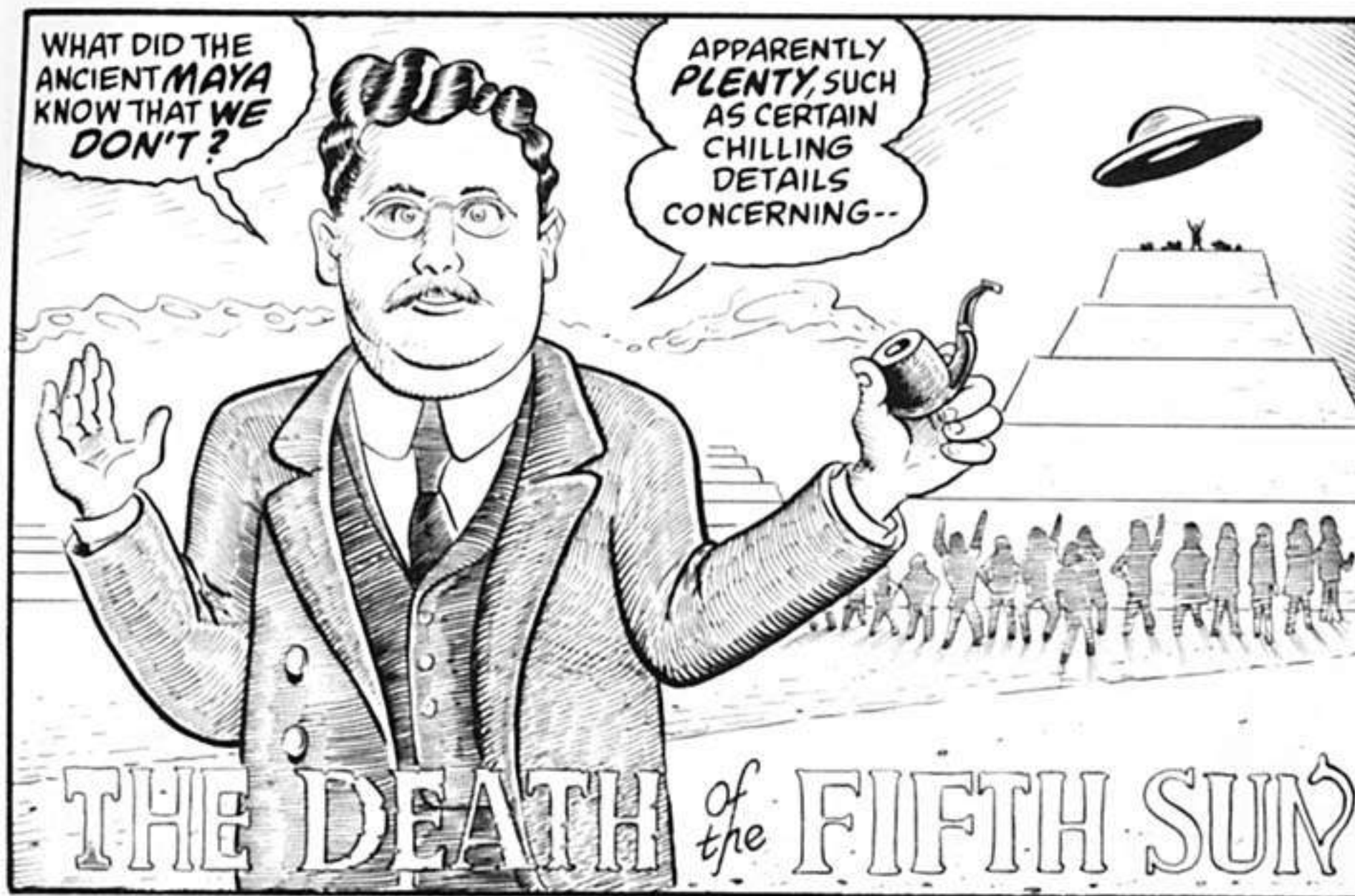
WE MAY NEVER KNOW.



ALTHOUGH THE VARIOUS WITNESSES WERE SCATTERED TO OTHER BASES AFTER 1980, LT. COL. HALT STANDS BY HIS MEMO AND TAPE TO THIS DAY.

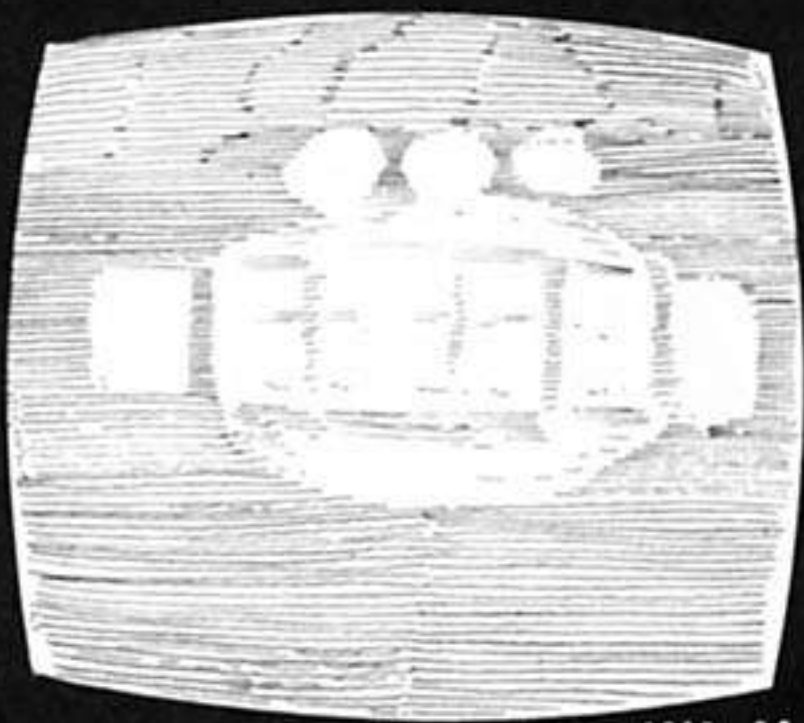
AS DOES FORMER BASE COMMANDER WILLIAMS — WHO WAS PROMOTED FROM COLONEL TO GENERAL, EVIDENTLY IN REWARD FOR WEIRD WORK WELL DONE.





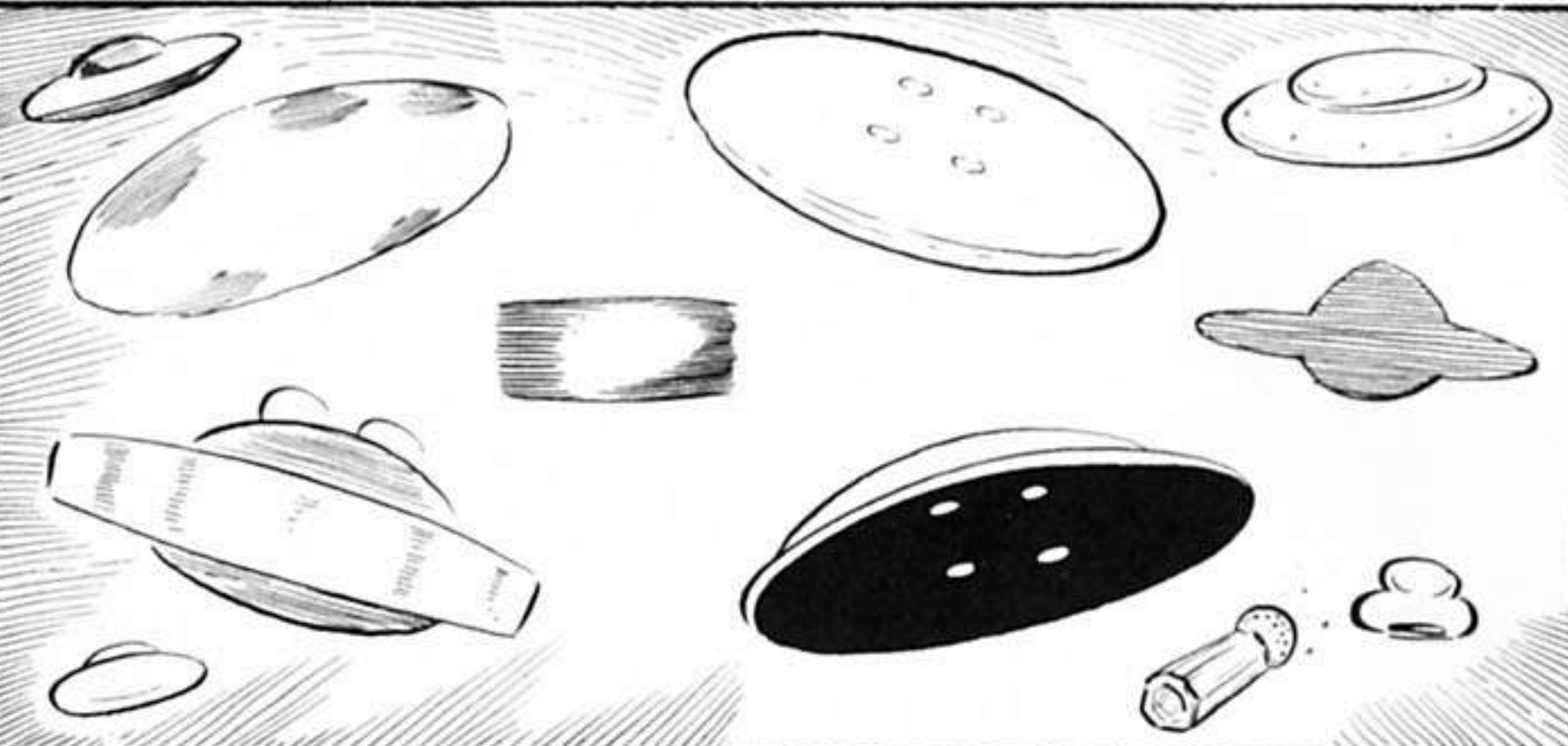


HISTORY'S LONGEST AND BEST-DOCUMENTED UFO FLAP THUS BEGAN WHEN SEVENTEEN DIFFERENT VIDEOTAPES SHOWED THE SAME UFO HOVERING UNDER THE ECLIPSE (OR "DYING") FIFTH SUN. IT WAS VISIBLE FOR 23 MINUTES.



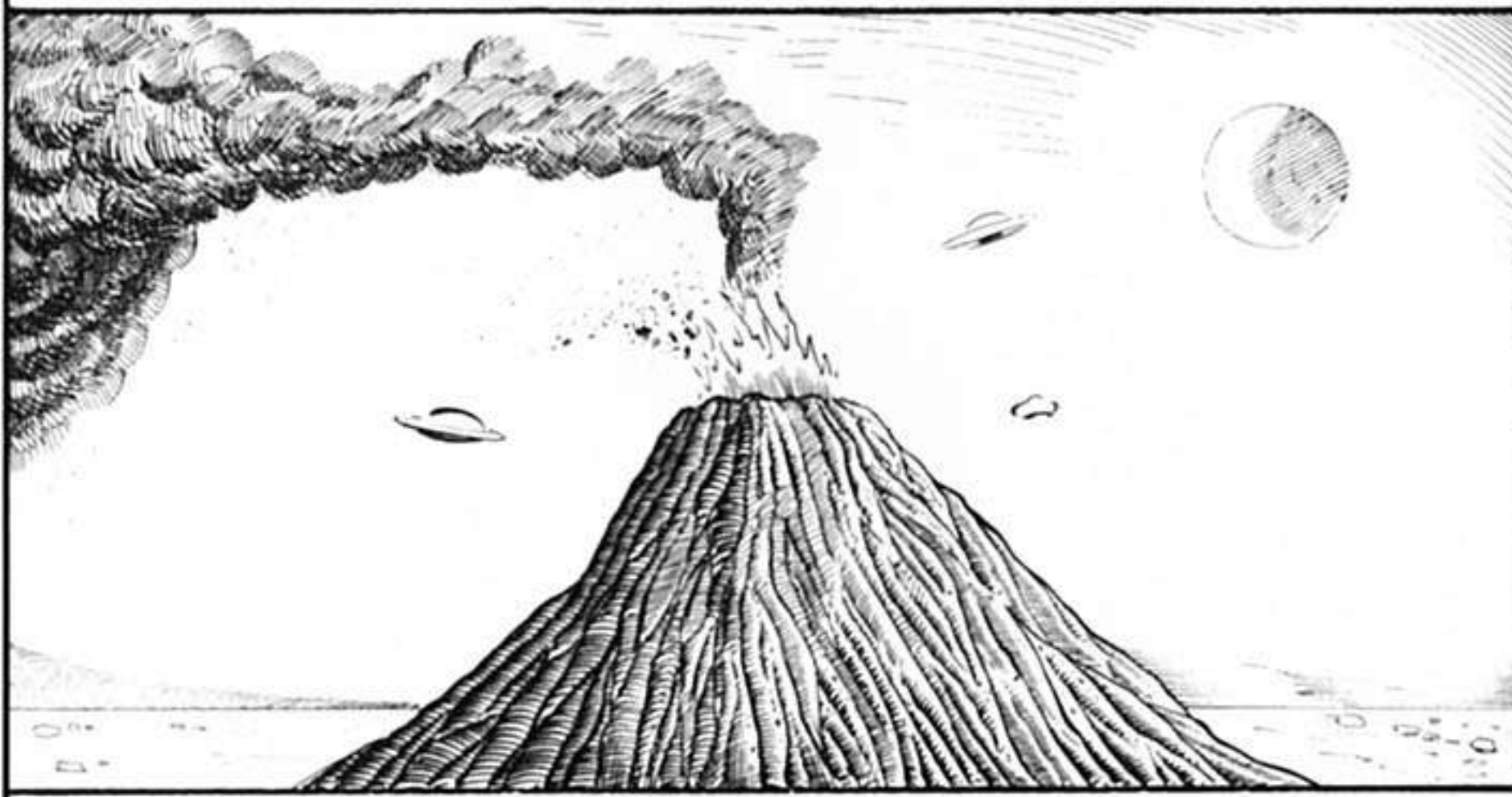
JUL 11  
1991

BY 1997, THE MEXICO CITY SIGHTINGS ENCOMPASSED AT LEAST SEVEN DIFFERENT UFO TYPES, LITERALLY MILLIONS OF WITNESSES, THOUSANDS OF VIDEOTAPES, AND HUNDREDS OF HOURS OF FOOTAGE.



FAR FROM FEARFUL (AND PERHAPS SLIPPING INTO "COSMIC AWARENESS") THE MEXICAN PEOPLE SEEM AWED AND DELIGHTED BY THE PERPETUALLY-HOVERING UFO'S.

SINCE 1991, THE "MASTERS OF THE STARS" HAVE BEEN SEEN AND TAPED MOST OFTEN ABOVE MEXICO CITY AND NEARBY MOUNT POPOCATEPETL --



--WHICH TURNED ACTIVE VOLCANO SHORTLY AFTER THE ECLIPSE, AS IF FULFILLING THE PROPHESED "EARTH CHANGES."

IF THIS IS THE FIRST YOU'VE HEARD OF ALL THIS IT'S NOT SURPRISING. THE WORLDWIDE MAINSTREAM MEDIA HAS LARGELY IGNORED IT.



HOWEVER, JAIME MAUSSAN--A HIGHLY RESPECTED REPORTER ON THE MEXICAN VERSION OF 60 MINUTES--TAKES THE MATTER QUITE SERIOUSLY.



IF SO, THEN OUR CURRENT SIXTH SUN WILL DIE IN 2012--THE SAME YEAR (ACCORDING TO ASTROLOGICAL AND ASTRONOMICAL PREDICTIONS) THE EARTH TRANSITS FROM THE ORDERED AGE OF PISCES INTO THE CHAOS OF AQUARIUS, AS MEASURED BY THE 28,000-YEAR AXIAL-TILT PHENOMENON KNOWN AS THE "PRECESSION OF THE EQUINOX."





AGAIN, IF A GOVERNMENT COVER-UP OF UFO REALITY TRULY EXISTS, WHY HASN'T SOMEONE IN AUTHORITY BLOWN THE WHISTLE BY NOW?

THE FACT IS, LITERALLY HUNDREDS OF WHISTLEBLOWERS HAVE SOUNDED SHRILL ALARMS, THE LATEST COMING FROM BRITAIN'S --

# POPE OF THE PARANORMAL

MEET NICK POPE, WHO JOINED THE BRITISH MINISTRY OF DEFENSE IN 1985 AND WAS INVOLVED IN POLICY MAKING DURING THE GULF WAR AND THE BOSNIAN-SERB CONFLICT.

I WAS GENERALLY SKEPTICAL ABOUT THE PARANORMAL.

I DIDN'T BELIEVE IN UFOs.



BUT THEN, IN THE SUMMER OF 1991, POPE WAS APPOINTED TO A NEW POST AT WHITEHALL -- SECRETARIAT AIR STAFF, DEPARTMENT 2A --

WHOA -- ALL THESE REPORTS FOR ME?



-- FAMILIARLY KNOWN AS "THE UFO DESK."

UNTIL THEN, POPE SAYS: "MY OPINION OF UFOs WAS BASED ON LITTLE MORE THAN THE MOVIE CLOSE ENCOUNTERS," BUT HE SOON DISCOVERED:

TRUTH REALLY IS MUCH, MUCH STRANGER THAN FICTION! I CAME IN AN OPEN-MINDED SKEPTIC AND ENDED UP A BELIEVER!



INDEED, AFTER SITTING AT THE UFO DESK FOR THREE YEARS, POPE CONCLUDED:

THEY'RE REAL!

IT DOESN'T REQUIRE ANY LEAP OF FAITH. THE EVIDENCE IS HERE NOW!



OFFICIALLY, POPE WAS CHARGED WITH ASCERTAINING WHETHER UFOs POSED A THREAT TO THE U.K.'S DEFENSE -- BUT UNOFFICIALLY, HE WAS EXPECTED TO SIMPLY DISMISS THE SIGHTINGS.

TELL THE PUBLIC IT'S NOTHING BUT FALSE ECHOES, RADAR ANGELS, SWAMP GAS, AND THE PLANETS VENUS, MARS AND JUPITER.



IT WAS WHEN HE BUCKED THE SYSTEM, POINTING OUT THE DANGEROUSLY DUBIOUS WISDOM OF SUCH POLICY, THAT POPE FIRST GOT INTO TROUBLE.

I TOOK THE VIEW THAT YOU COULDN'T MAKE A VALID JUDGMENT UNTIL YOU'D MADE SOME REAL AND SUBSTANTIAL EFFORT TO FIND OUT WHAT THE PHENOMENON WAS!

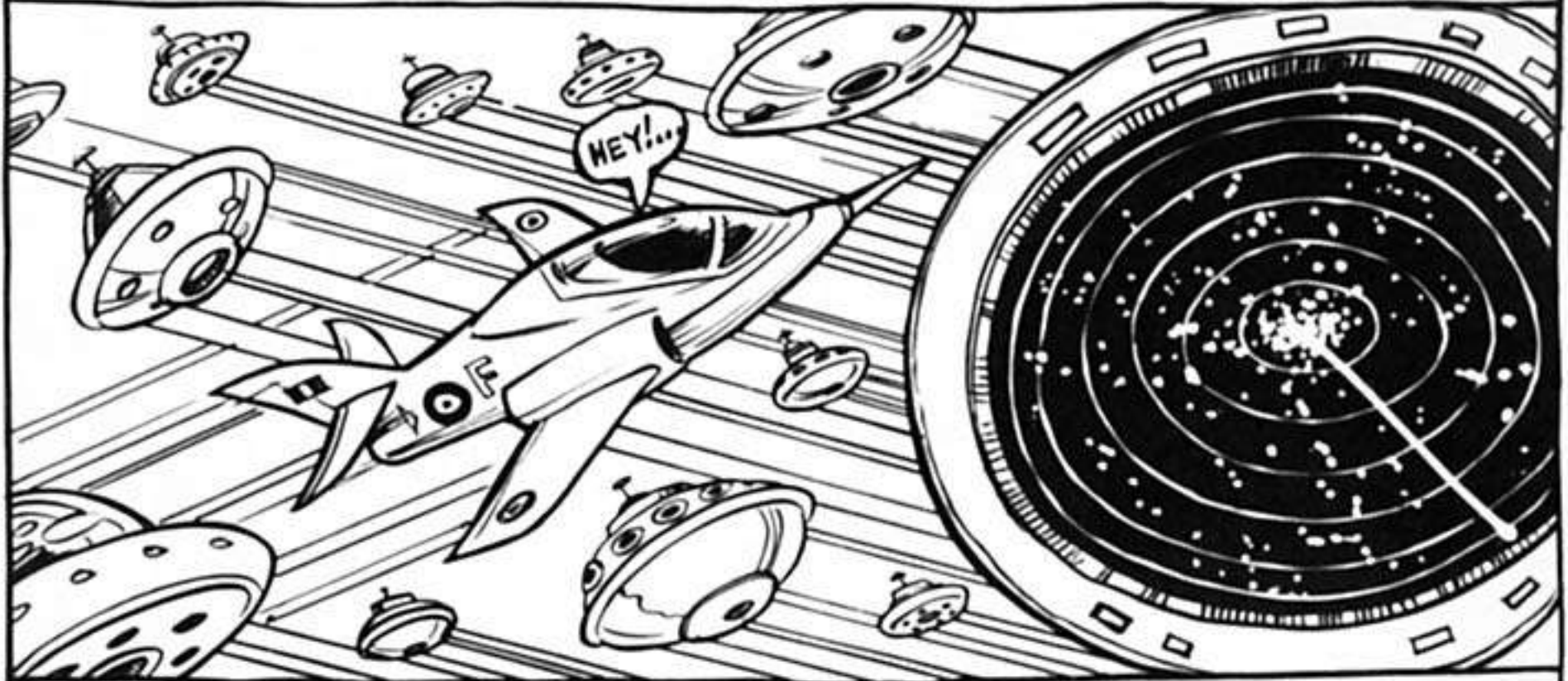




POPE SAYS HE BECAME "A BIT OF A MAVERICK, A LOOSE CANNON WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT, VIEWED WITH A MIXTURE OF SUSPICION AND DISTRUST."



NEVERTHELESS, POPE STUCK TO HIS CANNONS = "WHEN YOU ADDED TOGETHER ALL THE EYEWITNESS TESTIMONY—RELIABLE STUFF FROM PILOTS, MILITARY PERSONNEL, AND POLICE OFFICERS—WITH ALL THE PHOTOS, VIDEOS, RADAR TAPES, RADIATION TRACES—"



-- THEY MADE FOR A REALLY CONVINCING CASE, AS FAR AS I WAS CONCERNED."

POPE'S FELLOW M.O.D. WORKERS BEGAN HUMMING THE TWILIGHT ZONE THEME IN HIS PRESENCE—AND AFTER THE X-FILES DEBUTED, HE ACQUIRED A NEW NICKNAME...



EVENTUALLY, POPE SAYS, "I GOT DRAWN INTO VARIOUS OTHER ODDITIES. BECAUSE I DID UFOs, I GOT QUITE A BIT ABOUT CROP CIRCLES, AND EVEN THE ODD GHOST STORY!"



BUT POPE'S PRIMARY CONCERN REMAINED UFOs: "ON THE BASIS OF THE EXTRAORDINARY CASES I'VE SEEN, I'VE COME DOWN ON THE SIDE OF THE EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL HYPOTHESIS."



"I DO THINK THAT THE REAL UFOs ARE EXTRATERRESTRIAL SPACECRAFT—AND THAT HAS MADE ME VERY UNPOPULAR."

FURTHERMORE, POPE FEELS THESE CRAFT CONSTITUTE "A POTENTIAL THREAT—AND THAT MAKES ME VERY WORRIED."



HE SAYS: "YOU'VE GOT TO FIGURE THAT IF A CRAFT SLIPS THROUGH YOUR DEFENSIVE SCREEN OF RADAR AND AIR DEFENSE FIGHTERS, ITS TECHNOLOGY IS PROBABLY BEYOND YOURS."



POPE ALSO SAID, "I HAD A 'DEEP THROAT' CHARACTER, A SYMPATHIZER I COULD DISCUSS THINGS WITH."



"SOMEONE IN A SENIOR POSITION? LET'S JUST SAY HE WAS WELL-PLACED ENOUGH TO DISCUSS THE MORE INTERESTING OPTIONS."

WHILE POPE SEES THE BRITISH "COVER-UP" AS ONE OF BLINDNESS RATHER THAN SECRECY, HE'S NOT SO SURE ABOUT THE UNITED STATES: "I KNOW THE CONSPIRACY THEORISTS SAY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT IS UP TO ITS EYEBALLS IN CRASHED SAUCERS AND ALIENS--"



"--BUT IT'S NOT A WORLD ON WHICH I HAVE ANY WINDOW. UNFORTUNATELY, I COULDN'T GET ACCESS TO ANY AMERICAN COUNTERPARTS, ALTHOUGH I DID TRY."

POPE'S TOUR OF WEIRD DUTY CAME TO AN END IN THE SUMMER OF 1994, WHEN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE PROMOTED HIM TO A FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.



"I HAD MIXED FEELINGS - BUT AN AWFUL LOT OF PEOPLE WERE GLAD TO SEE THE BACK OF ME, I CAN TELL YOU!"



INDEED - BUT FOR ALL HIS CANDOR, POPE IS PRESUMABLY STILL BOUND BY BRITAIN'S OFFICIAL SECRETS ACT, MAKING ONE WONDER WHAT HE HASN'T SAID!

IN ANY CASE, SUCH IS THE STRANGE (IF PARTIAL) STORY OF NICK POPE - REAL-LIFE GOVERNMENT COUNTERPART TO A "PARANOID" CHARACTER ON A "TOTALLY FICTIONAL" TV SHOW.



POPE CONTINUES INVESTIGATING UFO ACTIVITY, HE CONCEDES, "PARTIALLY TO EXPLAIN SOME ANOMALOUS EVENTS IN MY OWN PAST--"



"--EVENTS WHICH THE UFO LOBBY WOULD SAY ARE FACTORS PRESENT IN CASES OF ABDUCTION, BUT I WANT TO STAY ON THE FENCE UNTIL I KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO ME."

IN THE MEANTIME, POPE'S FINAL WORDS REMAIN RELATIVELY CONSERVATIVE:



DESPITE WHAT SOME PEOPLE MAY SAY, THERE IS A THREAT!



IF WE COUNT CAVE PAINTINGS, THEN UFO REPORTS ARE OLDER THAN HISTORY ITSELF — THE SAME PHENOMENON PERCEIVED FOR MILLENNIA, YET DESCRIBED DIFFERENTLY.

WHY CAN'T WE AGREE ON THE NATURE OF THESE MYSTERIOUS AERIAL OBJECTS? THE ANSWER MAY LIE IN THE--



TO METEOROLOGISTS, UFOs ARE NOTHING BUT LENTICULAR CLOUDS, THE AURORA BOREALIS, BALL LIGHTNING, IONIZED PLASMA, OR "THERMAL INVERSIONS."

TRUST ME—I'M A TV WEATHER PERSONALITY!



PRE-BIBLICAL OR "PRIMITIVE" CULTURES MAY HAVE INTERPRETED UFOs AND THEIR OCCUPANTS AS THE GODS THEMSELVES, DESCENDING FROM HEAVEN.



AMATEUR ARCHAEOLOGISTS ERICH VON DANIKEN, ZECHARIA SITCHIN, AND OTHER PROPONENTS OF THE "ANCIENT ASTRONAUT" THEORY CARRY THIS TORCH RIGHT INTO THE PRESENT, ADDING A TECHNO-ALIEN SPIN BY CONNECTING THESE BELIEFS IN "GODS" TO MODERN UFO SIGHTINGS.



TO BIBLICAL-ERA JEWS, MOSLEMS, AND CHRISTIANS, UFO BEINGS MAY HAVE BEEN THOUGHT TO BE ENTITIES FROM HEAVEN, ALTHOUGH DEMOTED BY MONOTHEISM TO EITHER--

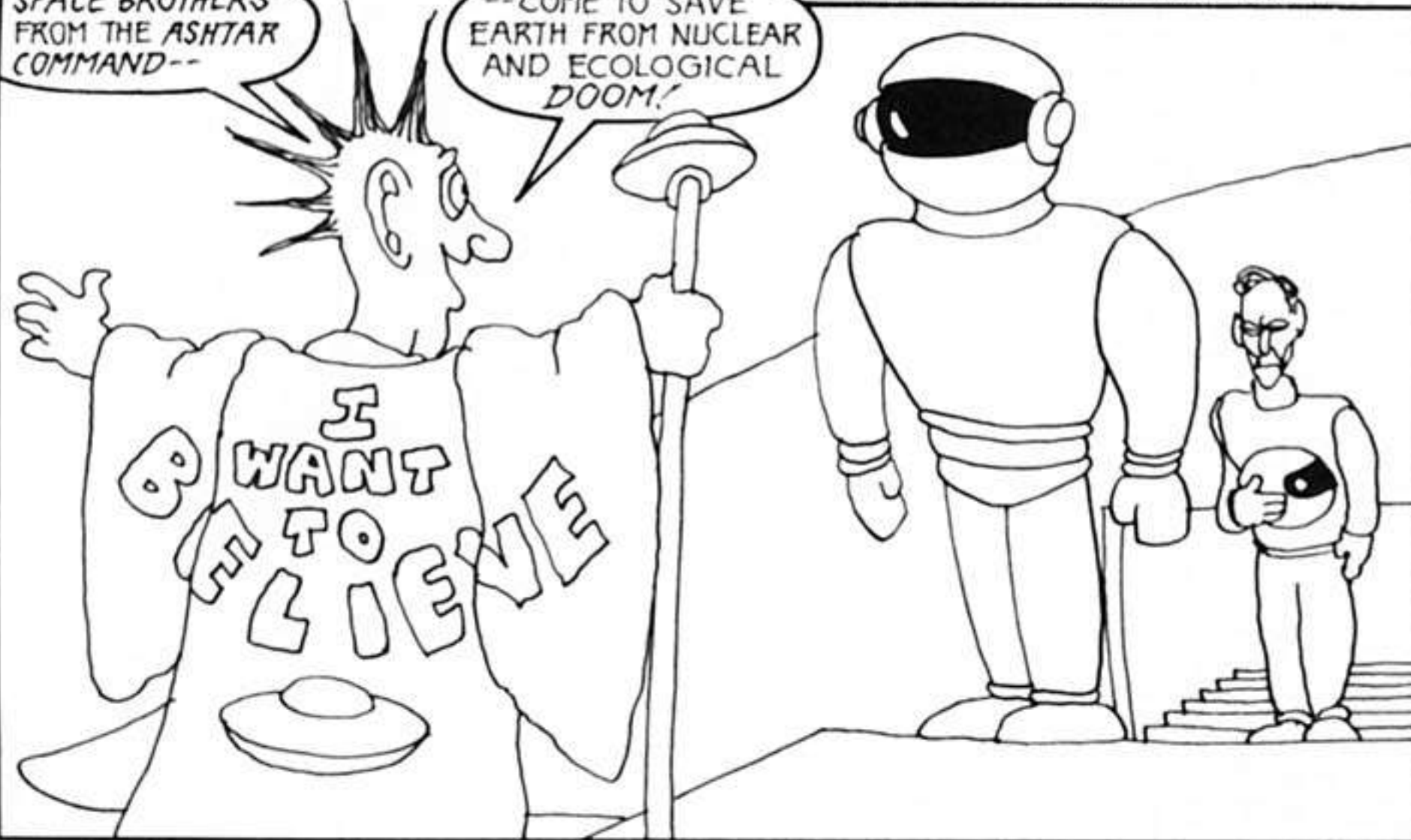




TIME ALLEGEDLY MARCHES ON, BUT EVEN ADHERENTS OF THE VERY CONTEMPORARY "NEW AGE" RELIGIONS SEEM TO BE IN THE SAME BOAT.

SPACE BROTHERS FROM THE ASHTAR COMMAND--

--COME TO SAVE EARTH FROM NUCLEAR AND ECOLOGICAL DOOM!



TO RADAR OPERATORS, UFOs CAN BE "FALSE ECHOES," "GROUND CLUTTER," "DOPPLER ANGELS," OR EVEN ENEMY SALVOS.



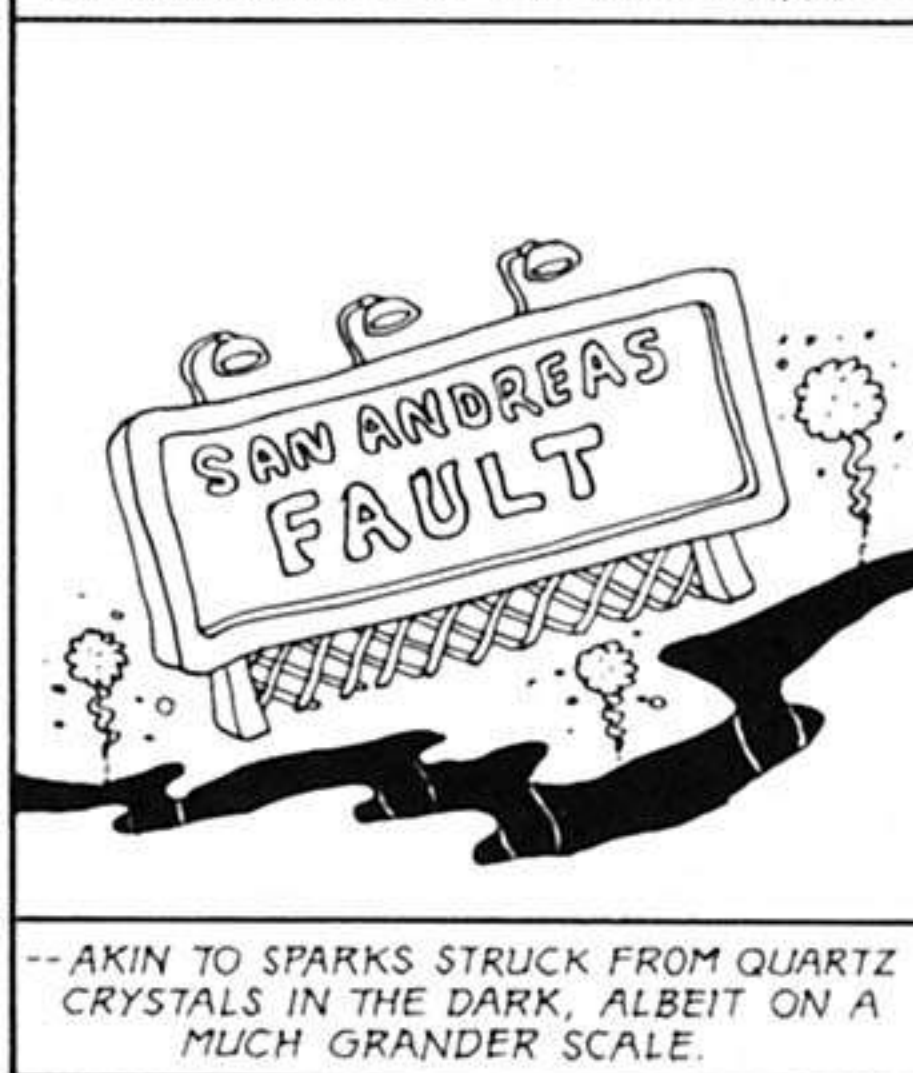
HOOBOY... LOOKS LIKE THE RUSSKIES FINALLY PUSHED THE BUTTON!

FOR PSYCHICS, IT'S ALL JUST PARANORMAL PHENOMENA.

THE "CRAFTS" ARE SPIRIT BALLS, WHILE THE "ALIEN ENTITIES" ARE POLTERGEISTS, GHOSTS, AND THOUGHT-FORM TULPAS.



GEOLOGISTS SEE UFOs AS "EARTHLIGHTS"—ELECTROMAGNETIC ENERGY PRODUCED BY THE GRINDING OF TECTONIC PLATES--



--AKIN TO SPARKS STRUCK FROM QUARTZ CRYSTALS IN THE DARK, ALBEIT ON A MUCH GRANDER SCALE.

PSYCHIATRISTS DIAGNOSE UFOs AS HALLUCINATIONS, FANTASIES, DELUSIONS, PSYCHOSES, AND OTHER MENTAL ABERRATIONS.

MOST PROBABLY INDUCED BY CHILDHOOD SEXUAL TRAUMA—OR POOR POTTY TRAINING.



TO AN OPTOMETRIST, THE UFO IS A SURE SIGN OF CONTINUED BUSINESS.



HERE, TRY THESE—YOU'LL SEE EVERYTHING CLEARLY!

FOR HOAXERS, UFOs CAN MEAN QUICK CASH FOR THE INVARIABLY BLURRY PHOTO.



HOLD THAT DAMN HUBCAP STILL, WILLYA?

FISHIN' LINE'S SO THICK, MAN, IT'S CATCHIN' THE WIND!



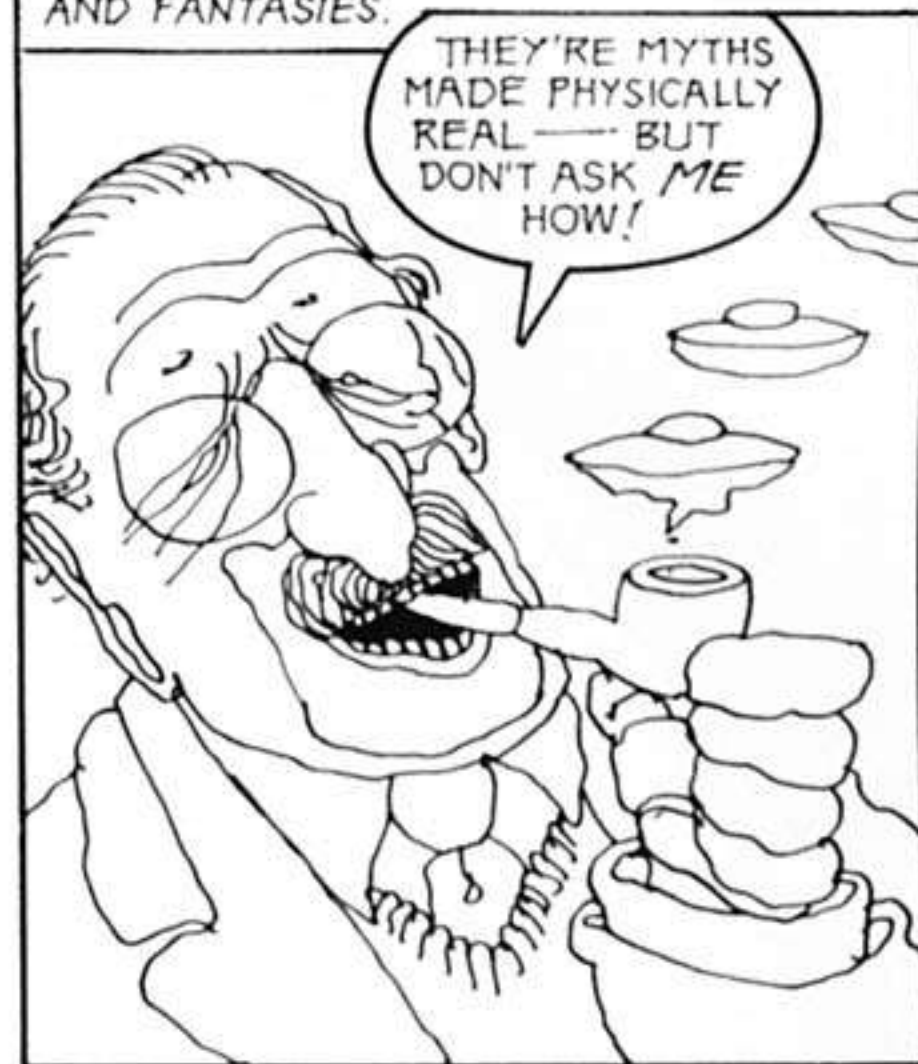
AS FAR AS TABLOID JOURNALISTS ARE CONCERNED, UFOs ARE ELVIS-FATHERING LITTLE GREEN GODSENDS WHO REGULARLY VISIT THE WHITE HOUSE.



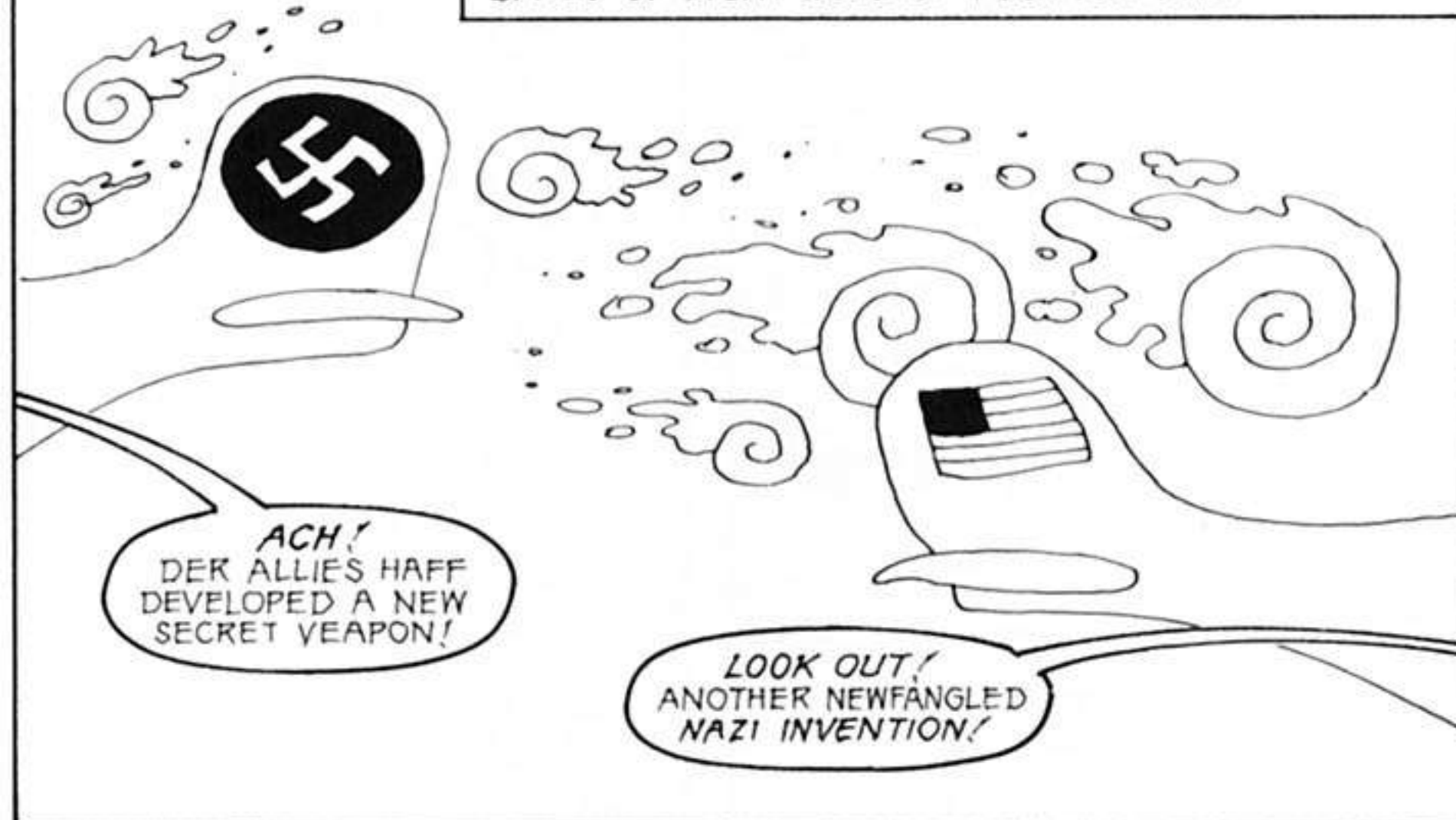
MORE "RESPECTABLE" JOURNALISTS TREAT UFOs AS OBJECTS OF VIRULENT RIDICULE.



TO PIONEERING PSYCHOLOGIST CARL JUNG, UFOs WERE EVIDENCE OF ARCHETYPES — SYMBOLS OF UNCONSCIOUS THOUGHTS AND FANTASIES.



FOR BEDEVILED WORLD WAR II PILOTS — ON BOTH SIDES — UFOs CAME IN THE FORM OF MYSTERIOUS BALLS OF LIGHT DUBBED "FOO FIGHTERS."



TODAY'S TECHNO-BUFFS ARE ALSO CONVINCED THAT UFOs ARE ACTUALLY SECRET WEAPONS OF A TERRESTRIAL KIND.



BUT THE MODERN MILITARY INSISTS THAT UFOs "CONSTITUTE NO THREAT TO NATIONAL SECURITY." BUT IS THAT WHAT THEY REALLY THINK? VARIOUS GOVERNMENT AGENCIES HAVE CONTRADICTIONALLY DESCRIBED UFOs AS A PHENOMENON THAT IS "NON-EXISTENT," BUT ALSO "OF THE GREATEST IMPORTANCE."



DOWN-TO-EARTH ASTRONOMERS SEE NOTHING BUT NATURAL OCCURRENCES.





TO ANCIENT ROMAN CENTURIONS, FLYING SAUCERS WERE "BURNING SHIELDS STREAKING THROUGH THE SKY."



WHILE, TO CONTEMPORARY SCI-FI GEEKS, THEY ARE BUG-EYED MONSTERS HELLBENT ON WAR-OF-THE-WORLD CONQUEST.

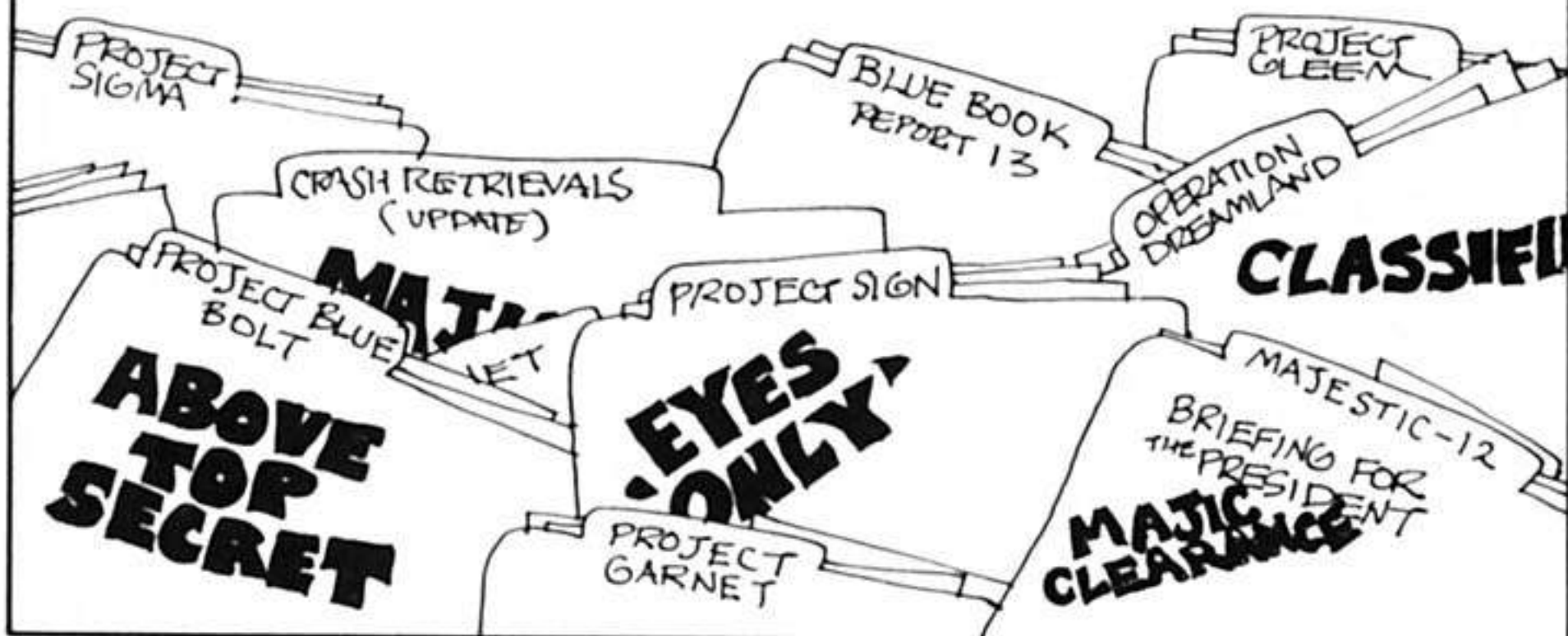


PARANOID CONSPIRACY THEORISTS (WISE MEN?) SEE UFOS AS PROOF OF SINISTER PLOTS AND COVERT COVER-UPS.



INDEED, TO THE CIA, FBI, NSA, ONI, ATD, MI-6, KGB, AND ALL THE OTHER ALPHABET SOUP INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES, UFOS ARE THE SUBJECT OF VOLUMINOUS REPORTS, STUDIES, PROJECTS, DOCUMENTS, AND DOSSIERS --

--FEW OF WHICH OFFICIALLY EXIST AND NONE OF WHICH HAVE EVER BEEN FULLY DECLASSIFIED-- OFTEN IN OPEN CONTEMPT OF THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT.



AS FOR POLITICIANS, THEY SEE UFOS AS NOTHING BUT NO-WIN HOT POTATOES.



TO THE SADISTIC (AND USUALLY MISOGYNISTIC) CRETINS IN CHARGE OF HISTORY'S VARIOUS INQUISITIONS AND WITCHHUNTS, UFOS WERE OCCULT PROOF OF STEAMY AFFAIRS WITH THAT SUPERNATURAL STUD NAMED SATAN.



GLOOM AND DOOM WORRYWARTS, ALARMISTS, AND END-TIMERS ALWAYS INTERPRET UFOS AS SIGNS OF THE LOOMING APOCALYPSE.





TO FOLKLORISTS, "ALIENS" ARE NOTHING BUT MODERN MYTHS — THE SPACE AGE INCARNATION OF FAIRIES, GOBLINS, GNOMES, TROLLS, BROWNIES, DJINNS, AND ANY NUMBER OF OTHER ENTITIES FROM THE PAST.



INDEED, THE WEE FOLK HAVE BEEN ABDUCTING DISORIENTED HUMANS TO OTHERWORLDLY "FAIRY RINGS," DISC-LIKE MOUNDS, AND "UNDERGROUND BASES" FOR CENTURIES.

RESEARCHERS OF "NEAR DEATH EXPERIENCES" SUSPECT ALIEN ENTITIES MAY BE VISITORS FROM THE "AFTERLIFE" —



WAIT! I'M NOT DEAD YET!

— POSSIBLY "ANOTHER DIMENSION," THEY FEEL, IN WHICH "BEINGS OF LIGHT" MAY RESIDE.

IN REMOTE AREAS OF AFRICA, THINGS EMERGING FROM LANDED UFOS ARE THOUGHT TO BE "SPIRITS OF DEAD ANCESTORS" — WHILE AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINES INSIST THEY ARE "DWELLERS FROM THE DREAMTIME."



WESTERN DREAM RESEARCHERS PEG ALIENS TO BE A RESULT OF HYPNAGOGIC AND HYPNOPOMPIC MENTAL STATES IN WHICH THE HALF-ASLEEP BRAIN HAS SURREAL VISIONS, LIKE THOSE INVOLVING WHAT THEY CALL "NIGHTMARE HAGS."



FOR SMUGLY SUPERIOR "SKEPTICS" AND DEBUNKERS, UFOS ARE SIMPLY BOKING AND MUNDANE

MISIDENTIFICATIONS OF PERFECTLY ORDINARY THINGS — PLANES, SATELLITES, MOON-GLOWING GEESE, AND VENUS ITSELF RATHER THAN "SNICKER CHORTLE" VISITORS FROM VENUS.



TO UFO RESEARCHERS PRACTICING HYPNOTHERAPY ON THE SIDE, THE AERIAL OBJECTS ARE CLEARLY MOBILE LABORATORIES CREWED WITH OMNIPOTENT ALIEN ABDUCTORS.





TO NO-NONSENSE ENGINEER, THE INERTIA-DEFYING HYPERSONIC PLATTERS REPRESENT EXOTIC TECHNOLOGY, POSING INTERESTING PROPULSION PROBLEMS TO PONDER.

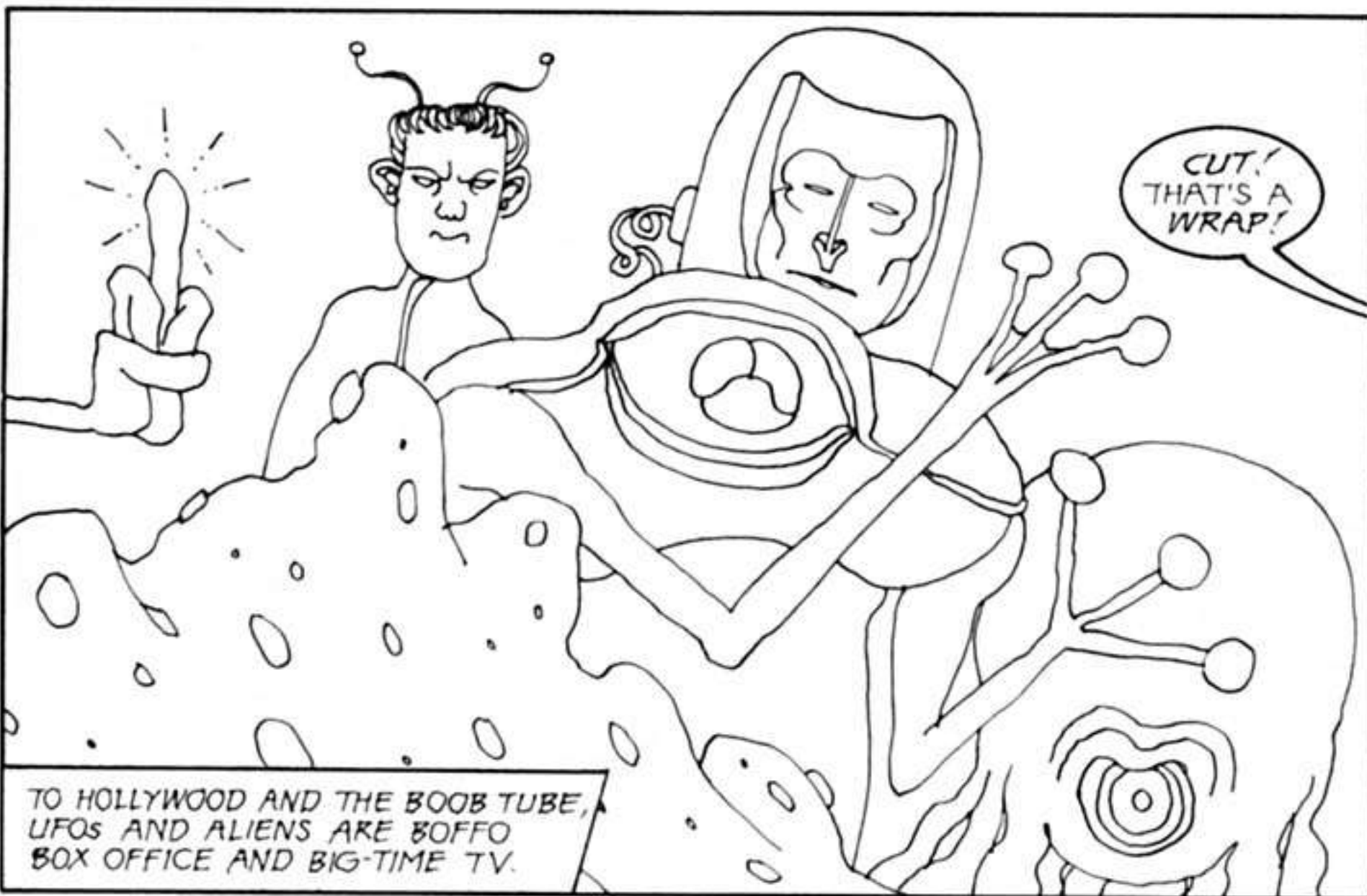


FOR SOME QUANTUM PHYSICISTS, U-FOLK COULD BE OUR OWN DESCENDANTS USING TIME MACHINES TO COME BACK AND VISIT US.

QUARKS TRAVEL THROUGH TIME ALL THE TIME!



WE ARE YOU — HARVESTING HEALTHY ANCESTRAL DNA TO BREAK THROUGH THE DEAD END TO WHICH WE HAVE EVOLVED IN THE FAR FUTURE!

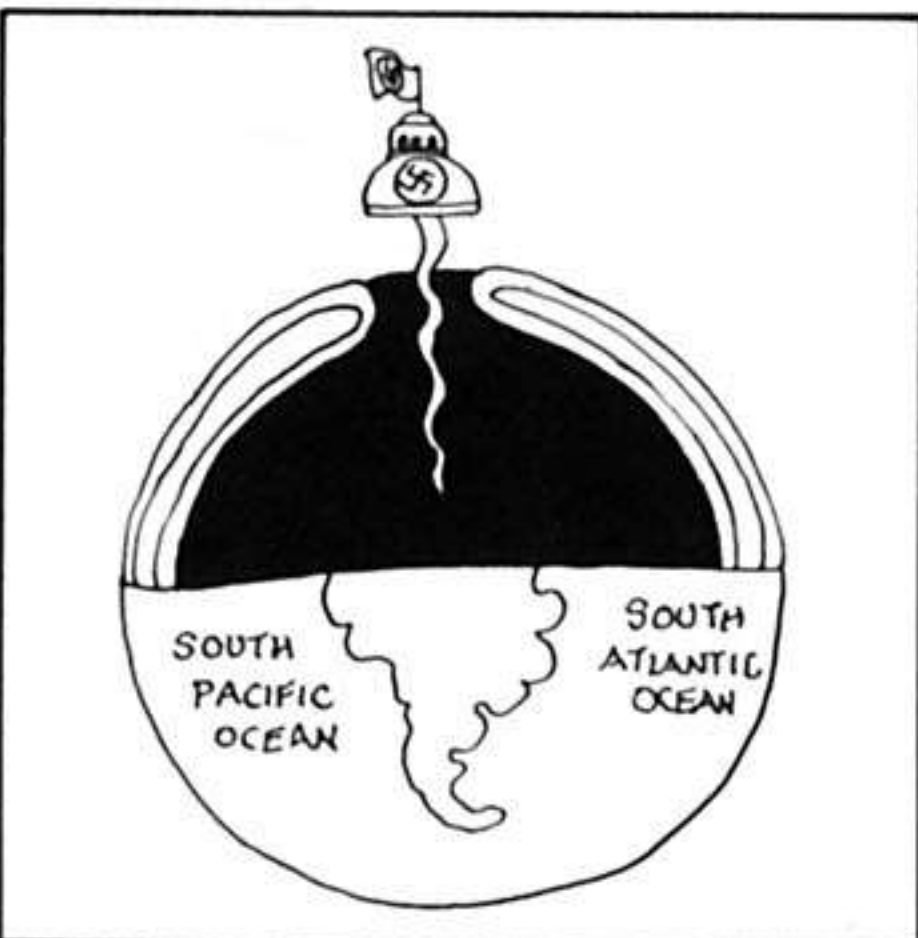


TO HOLLYWOOD AND THE BOOB TUBE, UFOs AND ALIENS ARE BOFFO BOX OFFICE AND BIG-TIME TV.

TO THE BLINDERED ROBOTIC EYES OF NASA (RECENT DISCOVERERS OF PROBABLE LIFE ON MARS), UFOs ARE SO FAR BEYOND THE CURRENT LEVEL OF TECHNOLOGY (THE SHUTTLE AND VARIOUS MALFUNCTIONING PROBES) THAT THEY CAN'T POSSIBLY BELIEVE THEY EXIST.



THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK!



AND TO STILL OTHERS, UFO PEOPLE AND THEIR CRAFT ARE ANYTHING AND EVERYTHING — SECRET DESCENDANTS OF SUNKEN ATLANTIS, ARYANS FROM THE HOLLOW EARTH, INTERDIMENSIONAL VEHICLES, LEFTOVER NAZI DEVICES... GET THE PICTURE?

THE LIST GOES ON FOREVER — AS EACH BEHOLDER'S EYE SEES SOMETHING DIFFERENT. AND IF UFOs ARE WHATEVER WE MAKE OF THEM, WE MIGHT AS WELL BE BLIND MEN GROPING AN ELEPHANT — NEVER DISCERNING THE TRUTH.



YET IN ONE SENSE WE KNOW *PRECISELY* WHAT UFOs ARE — THEY ARE *MIRRORS*, REFLECTING EACH BEHOLDER'S INDIVIDUAL BELIEFS AND PERSONAL WORLDVIEW.



SO ASK YOURSELF: IF AND WHEN YOU ENCOUNTER THE SHINY FACE OF THE UNKNOWN... WHAT WILL YOU SEE?

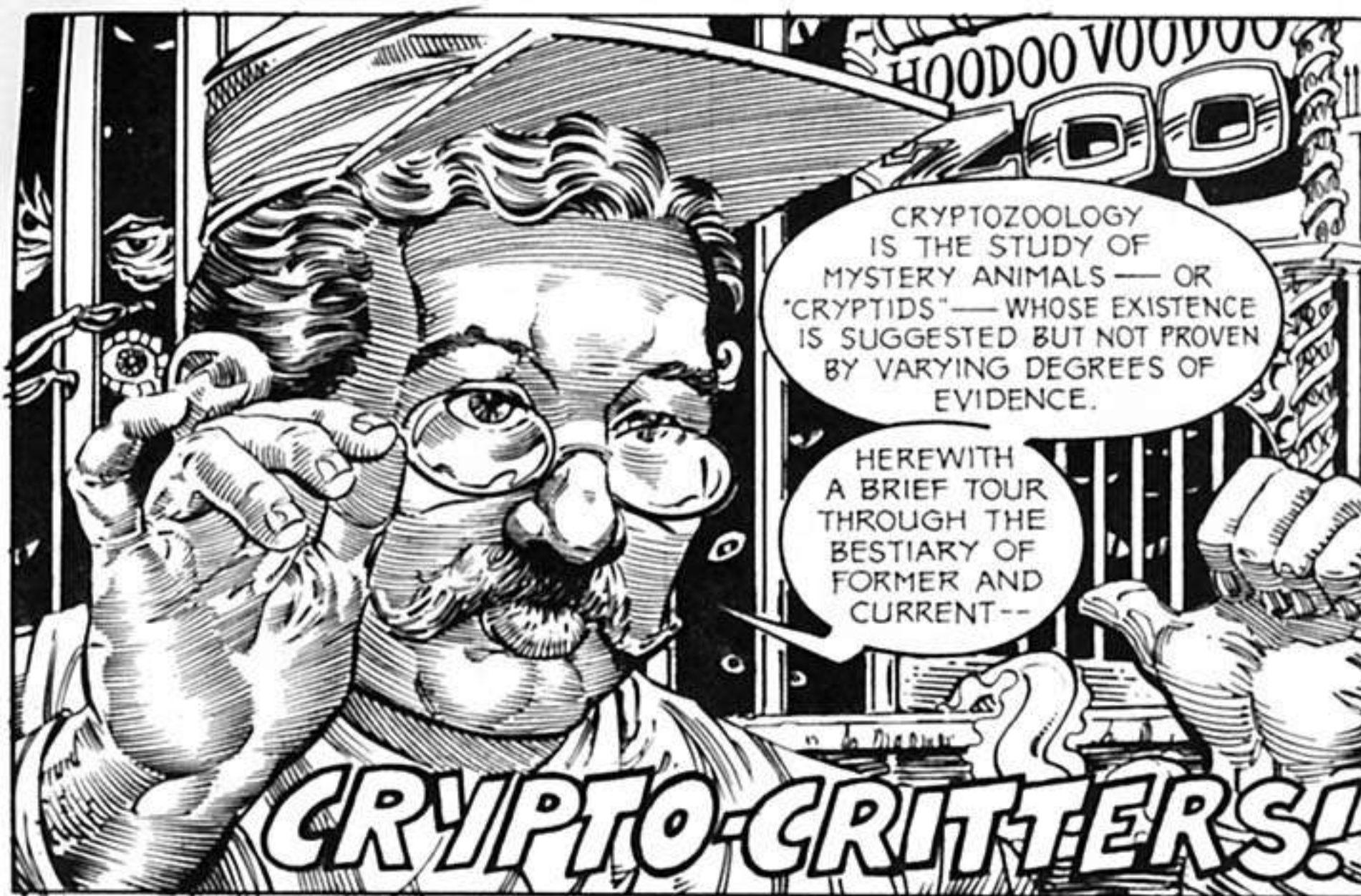


# CHAPTER THREE

## IMPOSSIBLE ENTITIES

Much of this chapter may prove only temporarily weird, since many of today's "impossible" cryptozoological creatures could well become tomorrow's "mere" animals. The existence of "living fossils," for example — such as dinosaurs in the Congo — is hardly out of the question. The same holds true for mystery primates like Bigfoot and Yeti — and for aquatic "monsters" like Nessie, whether ultimately identified as plesiosaurs or presently unknown species of giant slugs and eels. But on the other hand, what do we make of Kentucky goblins, Men in Black, Mothman, and the Goatsucker? It is difficult to imagine niches in the natural scheme of things for such bizarre entities. And even Sasquatch and the Loch Ness Monster, for that matter, may prove to be far weirder than most of us can imagine...







CROCODILES HAVE IMPRESSIVELY SURVIVED SINCE THE DAYS OF THE DINOSAURS, BUT THE TUATARA OF NEW ZEALAND ACTUALLY PREDATES DINOSAURS. ONE SPECIES WAS NOT EVEN KNOWN UNTIL 1989.



BETTER LATE THAN NEVER.

ALLEGEDLY RESIDING NOT FAR FROM SAUROPOD-SURVIVOR MOKELE-MBEMBE'S AFRICAN STOMPING GROUNDS, THE STEGOSAURUS-LIKE MBIELU-MBIELU-MBIELU IS DESCRIBED AS "ANIMAL WITH PLANKS GROWING FROM ITS BACK."



("STEGOSAURUS" MEANS "SHINGLED LIZARD.")

PERSISTENTLY REPORTED FOR CENTURIES, PTEROSAUR-LIKE CREATURES SOARING THE TEXAS SKIES COULD WELL ACCOUNT FOR NATIVE AMERICAN "THUNDERBIRD MYTHS."



ACTUAL BIRDS — HUGE AND PREDATORY — HAVE BEEN ACCUSED OF SNATCHING LIVESTOCK AND EVEN CHILDREN ALL OVER THE WORLD.

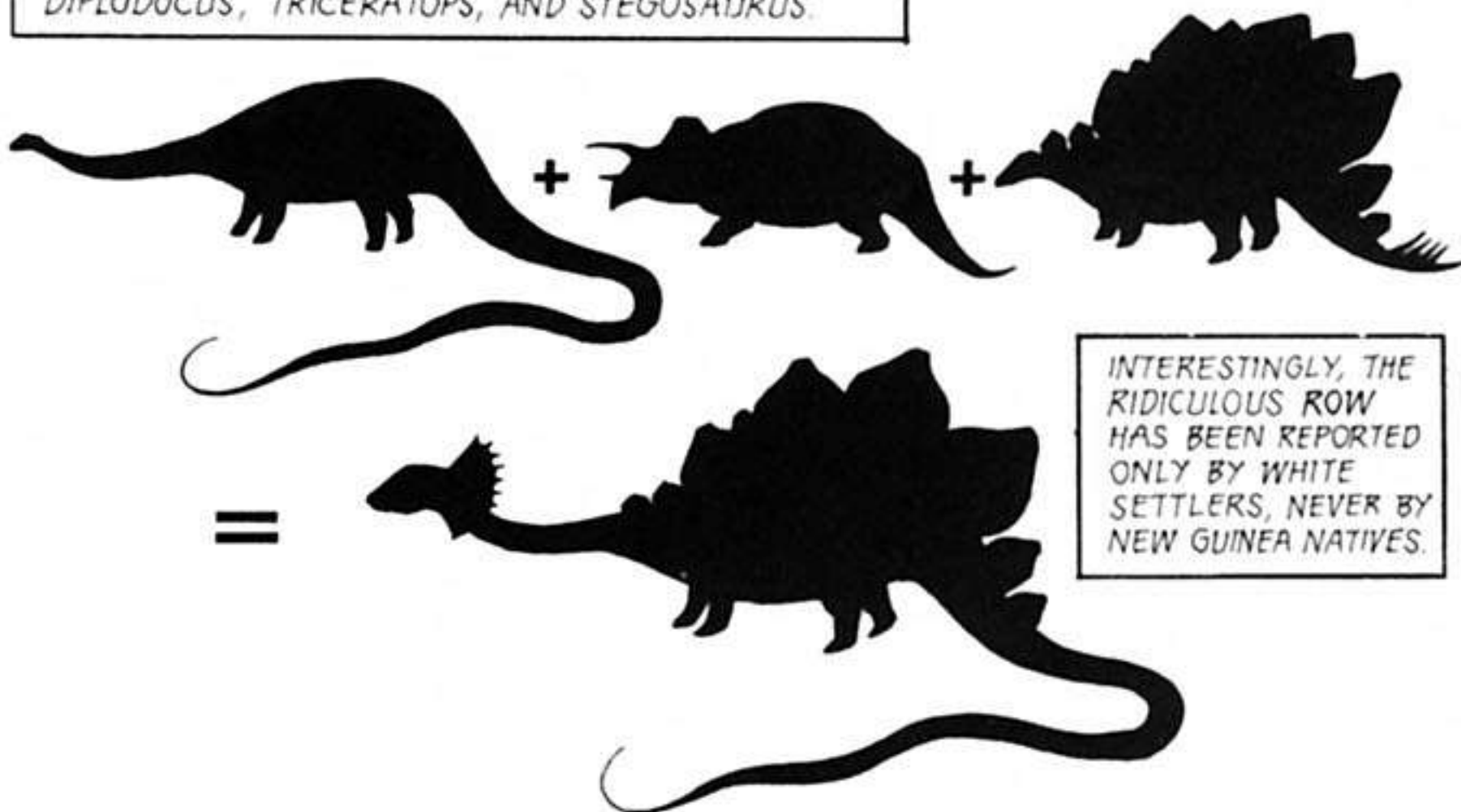
SINCE TODAY'S LARGEST KNOWN BIRD IS THE RELATIVELY PUNY CONDOR, THESE RAPTORS — IF REAL — MAY BE SOME PREHISTORIC SURVIVOR, SOMETHING LIKE THIS SPECIMEN OF ARGENTAVIS MAGNIFICENS.



ANOTHER "LONG EXTINCT" CREATURE AND ERSTWHILE CRYPTID, THE GOBLIN SHARK, BECAME A VERIFIED "LIVING FOSSIL" ONLY AT THE TURN OF THE 20TH CENTURY.



ONE OF THE LEAST PROBABLE PREHISTORIC SURVIVORS IS THE NEW GUINEA ROW, AN ABSURD AMALGAM OF DIPLODOCUS, TRICERATOPS, AND STEGOSAURUS.



INTERESTINGLY, THE RIDICULOUS ROW HAS BEEN REPORTED ONLY BY WHITE SETTLERS, NEVER BY NEW GUINEA NATIVES.



FAR MORE PLAUSIBLE ARE SOUTH AMERICAN AND AFRICAN REPORTS OF GIANT AGGRESSIVE SNAKES REACHING LENGTHS OF 100 FEET AND MORE.

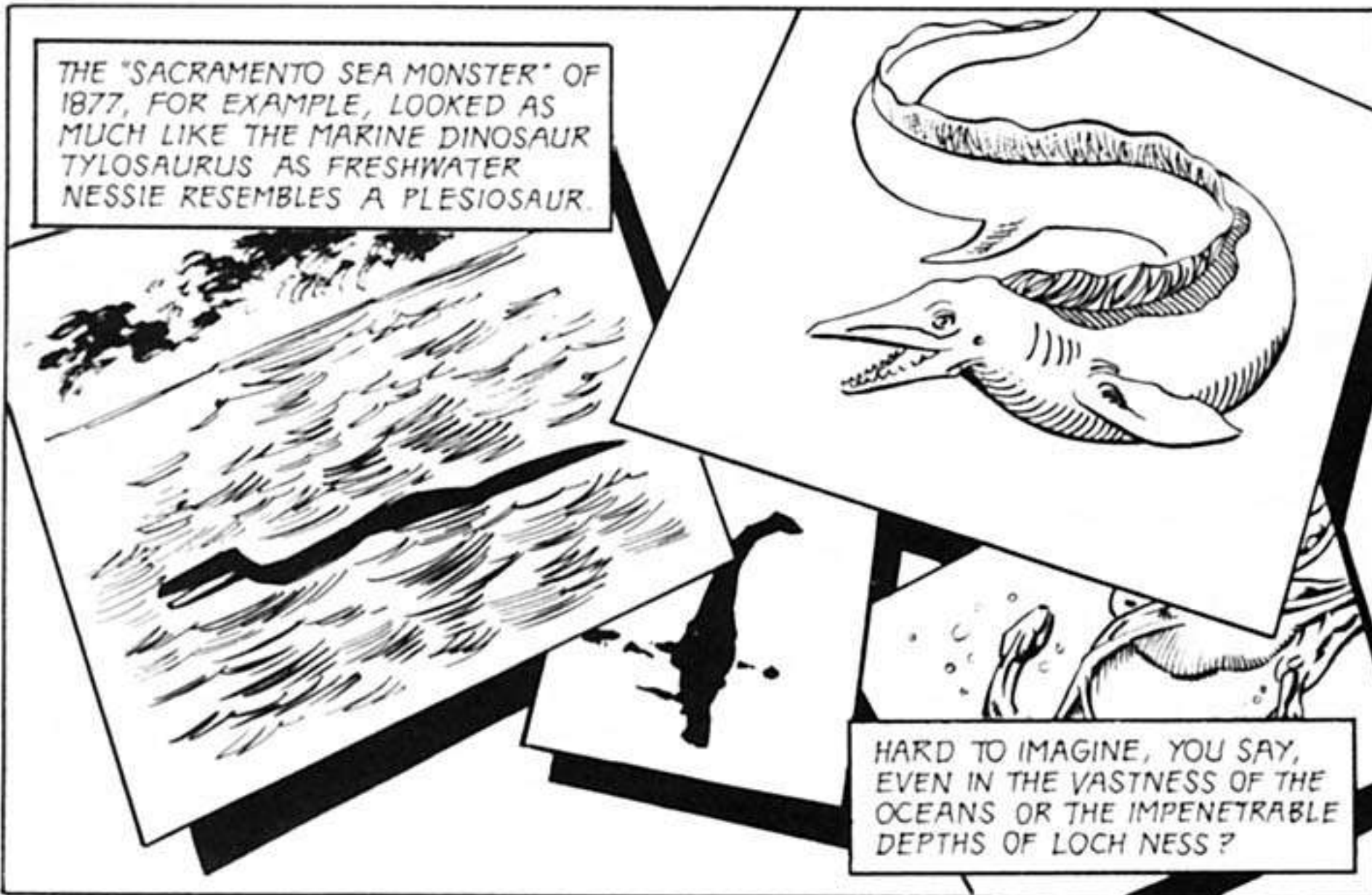


WHEN IT COMES TO AQUATIC SNAKES, SCIENCE IS APPARENTLY UNABLE TO LEARN A LESSON, STILL SCOFFING AT THE THOUSANDS OF "SEA SERPENTS" AND "SEA MONSTERS" REPORTED THROUGHOUT HISTORY.



ALTHOUGH MANY OF THESE SIGHTINGS ARE PROBABLE MISIDENTIFICATIONS OF GIANT EELS AND SQUIDS, THE COELACANTH AND GOBLIN SHARK PROVE THAT SOME SEA MONSTERS COULD EASILY BE PREHISTORIC SURVIVORS.

THE "SACRAMENTO SEA MONSTER" OF 1877, FOR EXAMPLE, LOOKED AS MUCH LIKE THE MARINE DINOSAUR TYLOSaurus AS FRESHWATER NESSIE RESEMBLES A PLESIOSAUR.



HARD TO IMAGINE, YOU SAY, EVEN IN THE VASTNESS OF THE OCEANS OR THE IMPENETRABLE DEPTHS OF LOCH NESS?

THEN CONSIDER THIS: FOUND AND PHOTOGRAPHED ONLY IN 1992, GIANT ELEPHANTS IN NEPAL MAY REPRESENT SURVIVING STEGODONTS, SUPPOSEDLY LONG EXTINCT.



AND BACK IN THE OCEAN, WHILE THE MONSTROUS KRAKEN REMAINS MIRED IN MYTH, THE NEARLY IDENTICAL GIANT SQUID IS NOW A FORMER CRYPTID, GRADUATING TO SCIENTIFIC LEGITIMACY IN 1849 UNDER THE NAME ARCHITEUTHIS, AND MEASURING UP TO SIXTY FEET IN LENGTH.

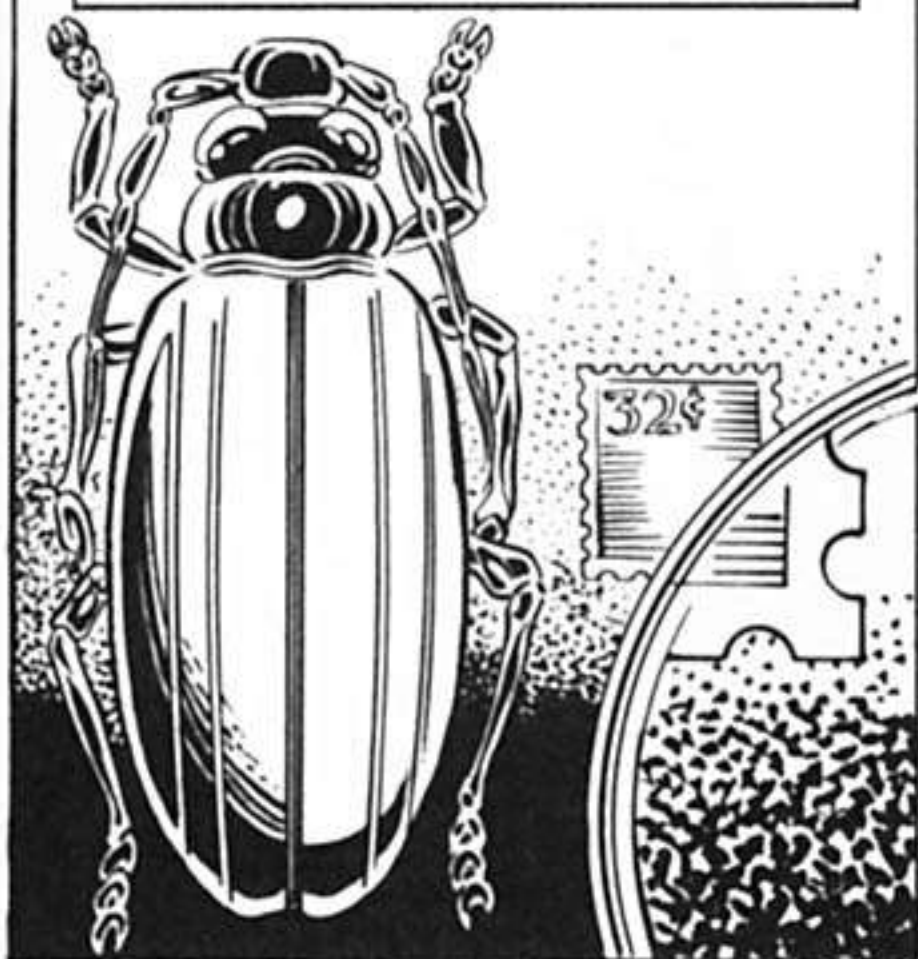


THE LAST THYLACINE (OR "TASMANIAN TIGER-WOLF") SUPPOSEDLY DIED IN CAPTIVITY IN 1936, YET SOMETHING VERY SIMILAR IS STUBBORNLY REPORTED (AND FUZZILY PHOTOGRAPHED) IN THE WILD TO THIS VERY DAY.





THE WORLD'S LARGEST BEETLE, THE TITAN LONGHORN, WAS CONSIDERED EXTINCT UNTIL 1910, WHEN A FRESHLY EATEN SPECIMEN WAS DISCOVERED INSIDE THE STOMACH OF A FISH.



GETTING WEIRDER, THE "ALPINE TATZELWURM" HAS BEEN REPORTED FOR CENTURIES — ELUDING CAPTURE FOR JUST AS LONG.



(AND PROBABLY FOREVER.)

A BIZARRE 1970s OUTBREAK OF "PHANTOM KANGAROOS" IN WISCONSIN CAME COMPLETE WITH MULTIPLE EYE-WITNESS REPORTS, VERIFIED FOOTPRINTS, AND EVEN BLURRY PHOTOS — BUT NO ZOO ESCAPES.



A CLEAR PHOTO OF "LOYS APE" TAKEN ON THE BORDER OF VENEZUELA AND COLOMBIA REPRESENTS EITHER A NEW PRIMATE SPECIES OR A HOAX CREATED BY ALTERING THE CARCASS OF A SPIDER MONKEY.



WASHED UP ON A FLORIDA BEACH IN 1896, THE "ST. AUGUSTINE GLOBSTER" REMAINS ON THE BOOKS AS FIVE TONS OF MYSTERY MUSH — AND THE "NEW ZEALAND GLOBSTER" OF 1968 WAS EVEN BIGGER AND MESSIER...



...WHILE 1988'S EXTREMELY TOUGH "BERMUDA BLOB" DULLED FOUR PATHOLOGIST KNIVES BEFORE SURRENDERING A FINGER-SIZED SPECIMEN OF STILL-UNIDENTIFIED TISSUE.

FINALLY, IF "YETI" AND "BIGFOOT" ARE SURVIVING SPECIMENS OF SUPPOSEDLY EXTINCT GIGANTOPITHECUS, AS MANY RESEARCHERS FEEL, IT'S HARDLY SURPRISING THAT THEY AVOID HUMAN CONTACT.



ACCORDING TO ANTHROPOLOGISTS, GIGANTOPITHECUS WAS WIPED OUT BY THE SMALLER BUT MORE AGGRESSIVE PITHECANTHROPUS — OUR ANCESTORS.

AND YET, IF CRYPTOZOOLOGY'S PAST IS ANY INDICATION, BIGFOOT — AND NESSIE TOO — MAY SOMEDAY SHARE ZOO SPACE WITH THE TAPIR AND THE OKAPI.



FRANKLY, I PREFER THEM RIGHT WHERE THEY ARE, LURKING IN THE SHADOWS OF TWILIGHT REALITY, FORCING US TO THINK ... AND WONDER.



WHETHER UNRECOGNIZED SIM-  
IAN SPECIES OR WANDERER  
FROM ANOTHER REALM, THE  
ELUSIVE BIGFOOT IS NOT AL-  
WAYS SHY ABOUT MEETING  
OTHERS, AS WITNESSED IN  
THIS WILD YARN ~~~

# THE BIGFOOT

## SLEEPING BAG SNATCH!

MICA MOUNTAIN, BRITISH COLUM-  
BIA, 1955: A PROLONGED EN-  
COUNTER WITH A FEMALE BIGFOOT  
ENDS WHEN WILLIAM ROE CANNOT  
SHOOT.

IT'S TOO HUMAN ~~~  
I'D NEVER FORGIVE  
MYSELF IF I  
KILLED IT!

BUT NEWSPAPER ACCOUNTS OF  
ROE'S EXPERIENCE BROUGHT  
FORTH ANOTHER WITNESS, 64-  
YEAR-OLD ALBERT OSTMAN ~~~  
WHO TOLD THIS AMAZING TALE.

YOU WERE KIDNAPPED AND HELD  
CAPTIVE BY A WHOLE FAMILY  
OF BIGFEET?

YEP, MORE'N  
THIRTY  
YEARS  
AGO.

OSTMAN'S ACCOUNT OF HIS 1924 ADVENTURE BEGAN WITH THE HIRING  
OF AN INDIAN GUIDE TO SEARCH FOR A LOST GOLD MINE NEAR  
BRITISH COLUMBIA'S TOBA INLET.

THERE ARE MANY  
SASQUATCH AROUND  
HERE ~~~ BIG PEOPLE  
WITH HAIR ALL OVER  
THEIR BODIES.

DO TELL.

HAVING DELIVERED PROSPECTOR  
OSTMAN TO THE DESIRED VI-  
CINITY, THE INDIAN GUIDE  
DEPARTED ~~~

I WILL COME  
FOR YOU IN  
THREE WEEKS.

~~~ LEAVING  
OSTMAN TO  
SET UP CAMP  
ON HIS OWN.

ON THE SECOND MORNING, OSTMAN  
FOUND FOOD MISSING FROM HIS  
PACK ~~~ EVEN THOUGH IT WAS STILL  
HANGING ON A POLE WELL OUT OF  
SCAVENGER REACH.

HMPH!

THAT NIGHT, HE GOT INTO HIS  
SLEEPING BAG WITH THE  
PACK AND HIS RIFLE, DETER-  
MINED TO KEEP WATCH. ~~~

~~~ BUT HE SOON FELL ASLEEP.



OSTMAN WAS JERKED AWAKE WHEN SOMETHING SNATCHED HIM UP "LIKE A PUPPY IN A PAPER BAG."



AT FIRST HE THOUGHT HE WAS BEING SLUNG OVER THE BACK OF A HORSE ~ BUT THEN, HE SAID, "I COULD FEEL WHOEVER IT WAS, WAS WALKING."



SCRUNCHED IN A BALL, HIS LEGS NUMB AND HIS BACK GOUGED BY HIS PACK OF CANNED GOODS, OSTMAN CLUNG TO THE RIFLE FOR WHAT HE ESTIMATED WAS THREE HOURS ~



~ MUCH OF IT BEING DRAGGED OVER ROUGH TERRAIN.

FINALLY HIS ABDUCTOR DUMPED HIM AND BEGAN "CHATTERING" WITH THREE OTHER BEINGS.



WITH THE WIND KNOCKED OUT OF HIM AND HIS LEGS CRAMPED UP, THE PROSPECTOR CONFRONTED HIS CAPTORS.

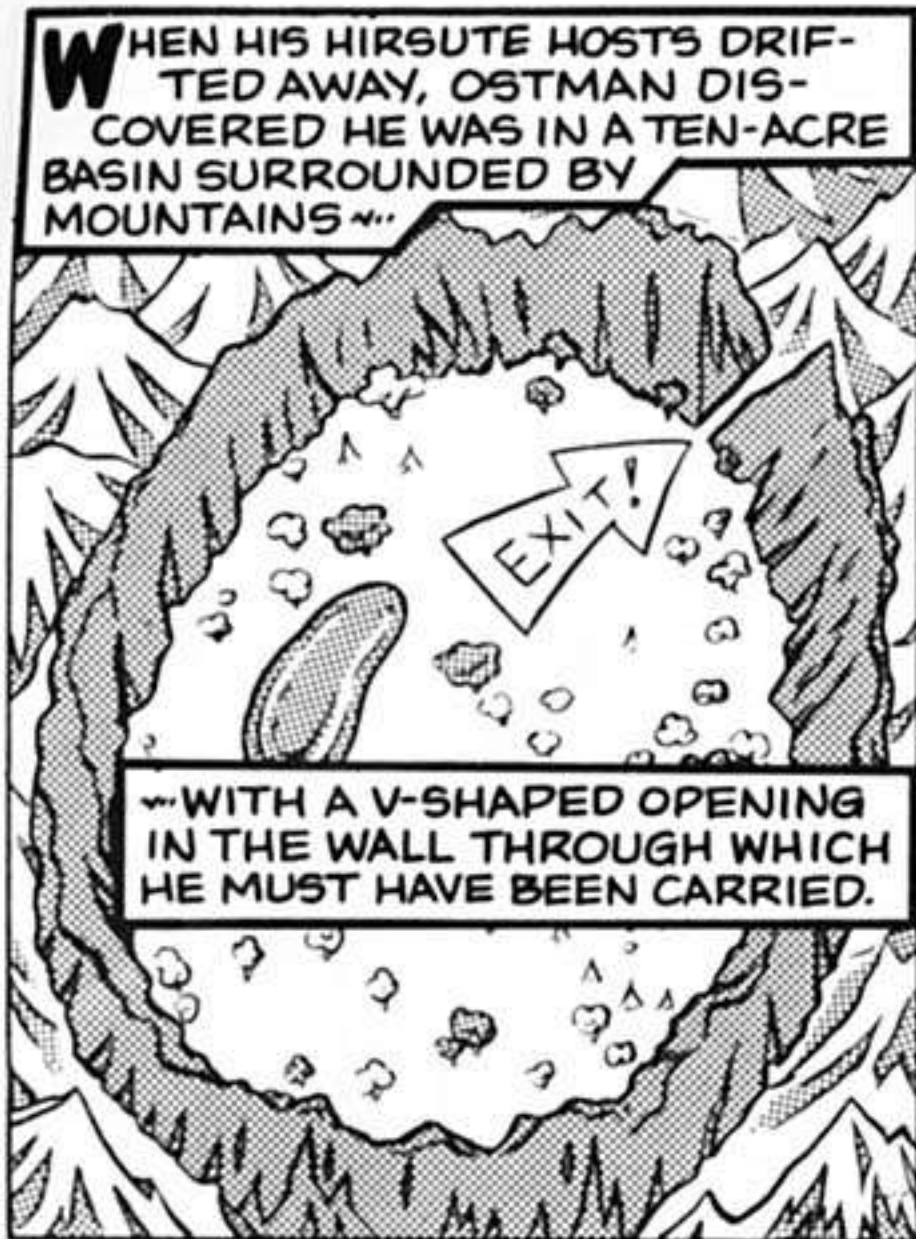


AS DAWN BROKE, OSTMAN REALIZED HE WAS IN THE PRESENCE OF FOUR HAIRY HUMANOIDS ~ TWO ADULTS AND TWO "YOUNG ONES," EACH PAIR MALE AND FEMALE.



CALLING THEM A "FAMILY," OSTMAN DESCRIBED THE YOUNG ONES AS BEING AFRAID OF HIM, THE ADULT FEMALE "OBVIOUSLY DISPLEASED" WITH HIS PRESENCE, AND THE ADULT MALE "THE ONE I HAD TO WORRY ABOUT."







**P**APA BIGFOOT HIT THE GROUND, ROLLING AROUND IN SEVERE DISTRESS AND "SQUEALING LIKE A STUCK PIG."



~ WITH THE ADULT FEMALE IN HOT PURSUIT, GIVING HIM SECOND THOUGHTS ABOUT THE WISDOM OF SNUFFING MRS. BIGFOOT'S SPOUSE.



**B**UT HE SHOOK HER PURSUIT WITH A WELL-PLACED SHOT TO THE ROCK WALL ~~~





FOR THIRTEEN PARANORMAL MONTHS IN 1966 AND 1967, THE WEST VIRGINIA TOWN OF POINT PLEASANT WAS ANYTHING BUT.

IT WAS, IN FACT, A TIME AND PLACE OF CHILLING WEIRDNESS EARMARKED BY--

## THE MOTHMAN VISITATIONS



A QUIET TOWN OF 6,000 IN THE OHIO RIVER VALLEY, POINT PLEASANT BOASTED DOZENS OF CHURCHES BUT NO BARS. SILVER BRIDGE, BUILT IN 1928, SPANNED THE RIVER SEPARATING WEST VIRGINIA FROM OHIO.



FORESHADOWING OUR MAIN STORY, A SOCIALLY PROMINENT WEST VIRGINIA WOMAN AND HER FATHER WERE DRIVING ON ROUTE 2 IN 1961 --



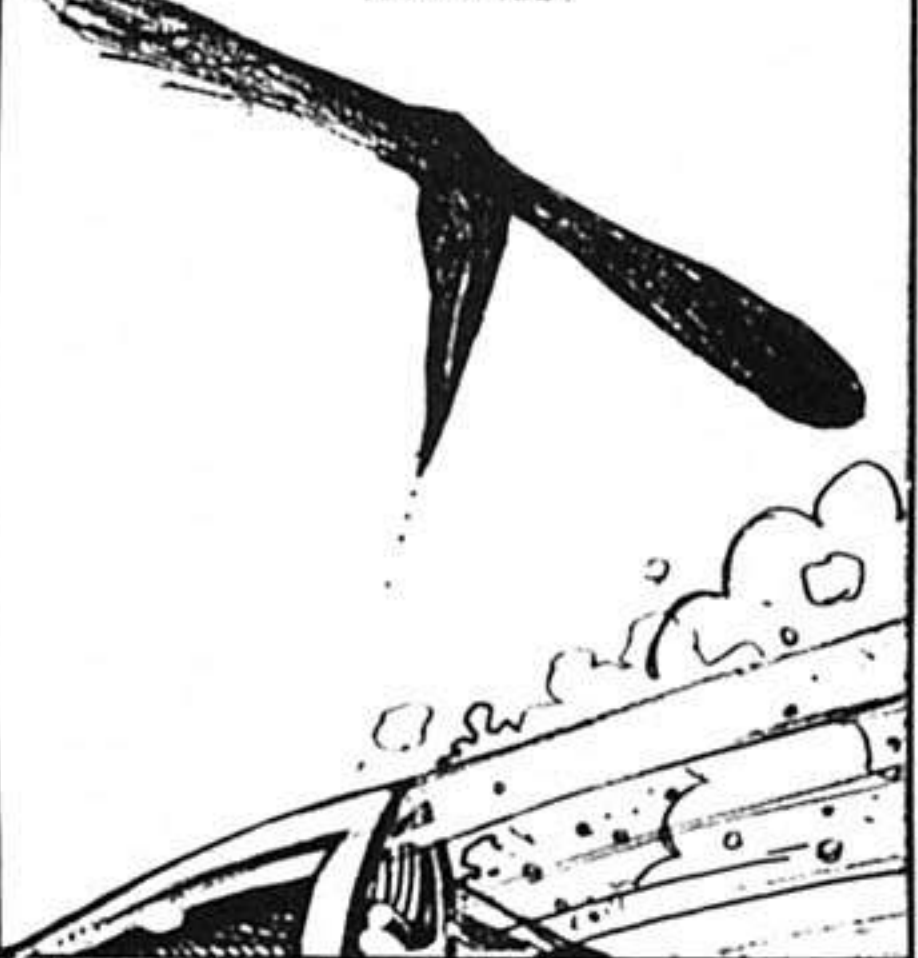
-- WHEN THEY CAME UPON WHAT SEEMED TO BE A MAN IN THE ROAD AHEAD.



BUT AS THEY DREW CLOSER, THEY SAW A GRAY FIGURE MUCH LARGER THAN A MAN -- AND WHEN IT UNFOLDED A PAIR OF WINGS, THE WOMAN SAID, "THEY PRACTICALLY FILLED THE WHOLE ROAD."

"IT ALMOST LOOKED LIKE A SMALL AIRPLANE."

AFTER THE THING "TOOK OFF STRAIGHT UP," SHE CONTINUED, "I STEPPED ON THE GAS AND RACED OUT OF THERE. WE WERE BOTH TERRIFIED."



SEVERAL YEARS LATER, AN EXCITED SEVEN-YEAR-OLD RAN TO TELL HIS MOTHER:

MOMMY, I JUST SAW AN ANGEL -- A MAN WITH WINGS!

AND, ALTHOUGH THERE WERE OTHER MID-SIXTIES REPORTS OF "GIANT BIRDS" AND "GIANT BUTTERFLIES" IN THE AREA, IT WAS ALL MERE PRELUDE -- WITH THE REAL STORY SPLASHING IN 1966...





AT 10:30 PM ON NOVEMBER 15, 1966, NEWELL PARTRIDGE'S TV ABRUPTLY WENT HAYWIRE. "A HERRINGBONE PATTERN APPEARED," HE SAID, "AND THE SET STARTED A LOUD WHINING NOISE."



AT THE SAME TIME, HIS DOG BANDIT HOWLED OUTSIDE

WHEN PARTRIDGE INVESTIGATED, HIS FLASHLIGHT PICKED UP "TWO RED CIRCLES, OR EYES, WHICH LOOKED LIKE BICYCLE REFLECTORS." AND JUST AS THE SIGHT WAS GIVING HIM "COLD CHILLS"—



-- HIS DOG SNARLED AND LUNGED FOR THE TWO RED ORBS.

BANDIT!  
BANDIT, COME  
BACK HERE!

BUT THE DOG  
DISOBEYED...AND  
PROBABLY DIED.



ONE HOUR LATER, NEARBY IN WHAT WAS CALLED THE "TNT AREA"—AN ABANDONED WWII MUNITIONS COMPLEX—A MAN AND HIS WIFE CAME UPON TWO RED-GLOWING SPOTS ATTACHED TO SOMETHING LARGE.

"IT WAS SHAPED LIKE A MAN," ROGER SCARBERRY LATER TOLD POLICE, "BUT BIGGER, MAYBE SEVEN FEET TALL."



"IT HAD WINGS FOLDED AGAINST ITS BACK AND ITS EYES WERE HYPNOTIC. FOR A MINUTE WE COULD ONLY STARE."



GRAY IN COLOR WITH MANLIKE LEGS, BUT NO VISIBLE HEAD (ITS GLOWING EYES SEEMINGLY SET IN ITS CHEST), THE CREATURE THEN TURNED AND "ODDLY SHUFFLED" TOWARD THE DOOR OF AN OLD GENERATOR PLANT.



ROGER SCARBERRY HAD SEEN MORE THAN ENOUGH.

HE PUNCHED THE GAS FOR POINT PLEASANT, PASSING A DEAD DOG ALONG THE ROAD (POSSIBLY POOR BANDIT).





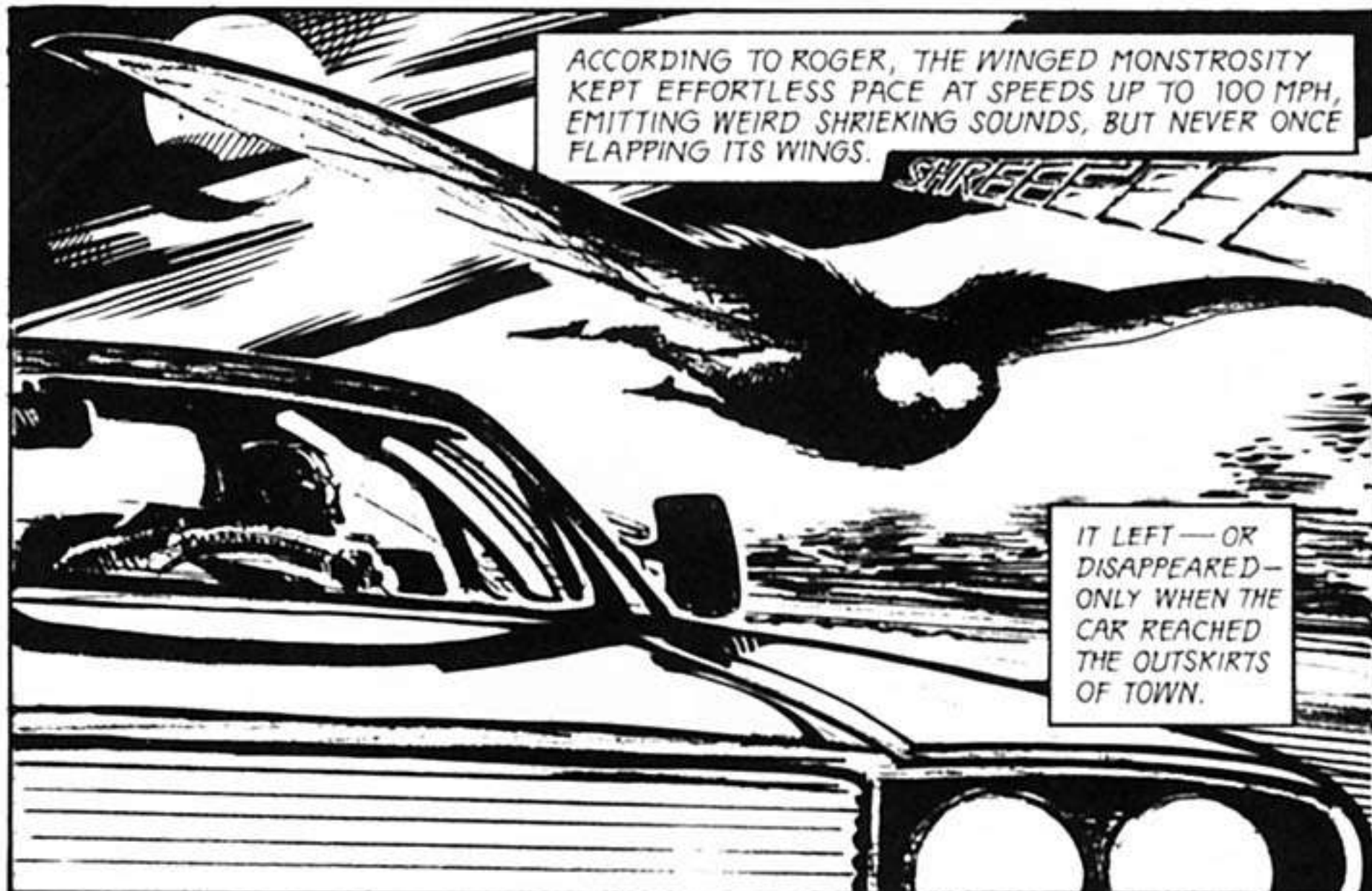
BUT THE HORRIFYING ENCOUNTER HAD JUST BEGUN, AS LINDA SCARBERRY WAS FIRST TO NOTICE--

IT'S FOLLOWING US!



ACCORDING TO ROGER, THE WINGED MONSTROSITY KEPT EFFORTLESS PACE AT SPEEDS UP TO 100 MPH, EMITTING WEIRD SHRIEKING SOUNDS, BUT NEVER ONCE FLAPPING ITS WINGS.

SHREEEEEEEE



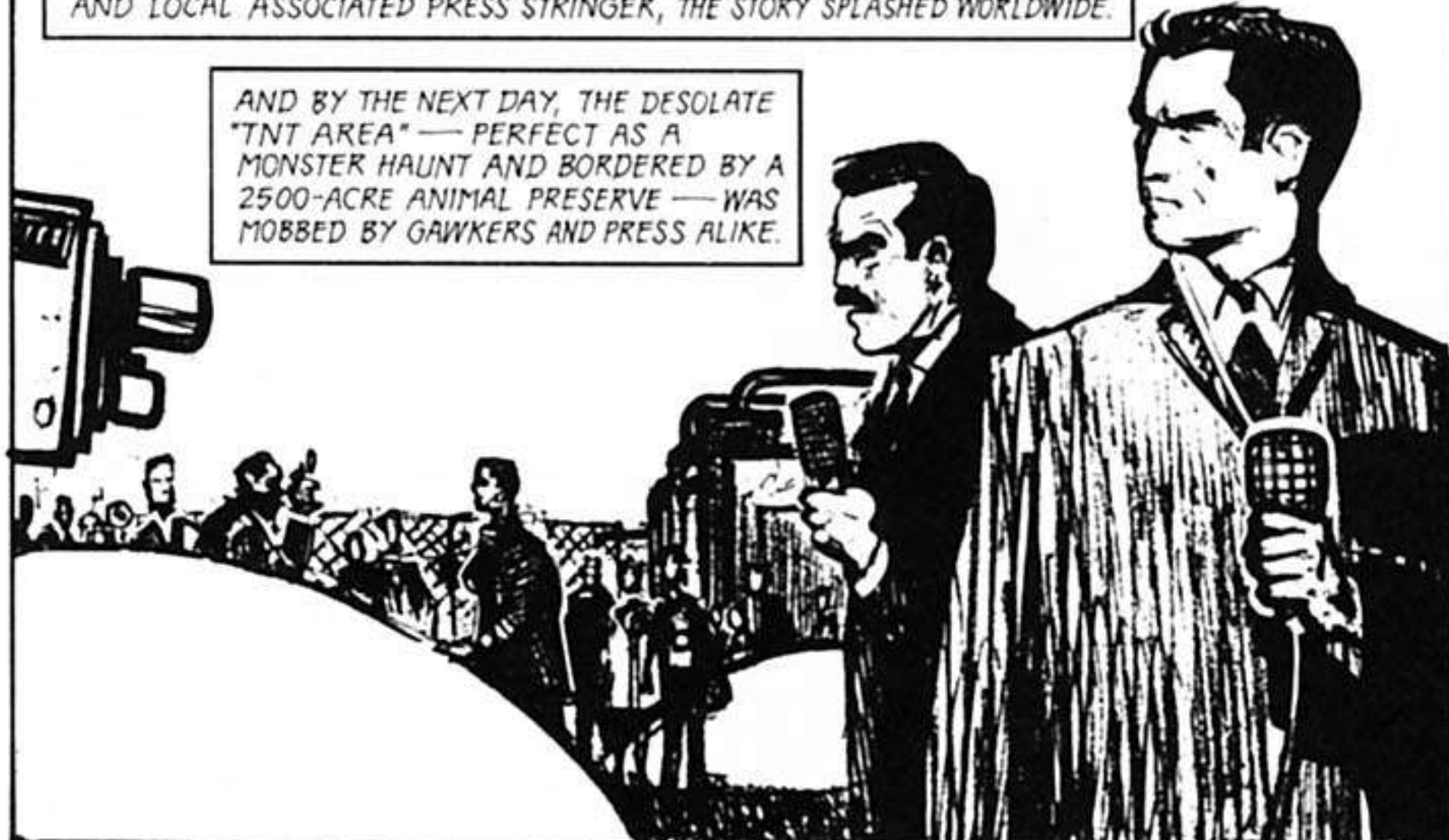
IT LEFT—OR DISAPPEARED—ONLY WHEN THE CAR REACHED THE OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN.

BY THE TIME SHERIFF'S DEPUTY MILLARD HALSTEAD INVESTIGATED, THE BIZARRE HUMANOID WAS LONG GONE—AND SO WAS THE DEAD DOG. BUT FROM HALSTEAD'S POLICE RADIO THERE SUDDENLY CAME THE SOUNDS OF A SPEEDED-UP PHONOGRAPH RECORD



THANKS TO MARY HYRE, REPORTER FOR THE ATHENS, OHIO MESSENGER AND LOCAL ASSOCIATED PRESS STRINGER, THE STORY SPLASHED WORLDWIDE.

AND BY THE NEXT DAY, THE DESOLATE "TNT AREA"—PERFECT AS A MONSTER HAUNT AND BORDERED BY A 2500-ACRE ANIMAL PRESERVE—WAS MOBBED BY GAWKERS AND PRESS ALIKE.



THAT NIGHT TWO FAMILIES, THE WAMSLEYS AND THE BENNETTS, DROVE OUT TO VISIT THEIR FRIENDS, THE THOMASES, AT THEIR ISOLATED HOME IN THE "TNT AREA."

RAYMOND WAMSLEY DECIDED TO GIVE THE THOMASES A SCARE BY PLAYING MONSTER AT THEIR WINDOW, BUT BEFORE HE COULD DO SO--



-- THE REAL MONSTER APPEARED NEAR THEIR CAR. "IT ROSE UP SLOWLY," MRS. BENNETT SAID, "A GRAY THING...WITH TERRIBLE GLOWING RED EYES."





WHEN THE HORRIFIC APPARITION ROSE TO ITS FULL HEIGHT, MRS. BENNETT WAS SO TRANSFIXED THAT SHE DROPPED HER TWO-YEAR-OLD DAUGHTER TO THE GROUND.

"THE THING HAD HER IN SOME KIND OF TRANCE," MR. WAMSLEY SAID. "SHE COULDN'T MOVE."



THE PANICKED VISITORS SCOOPED UP THE CHILD, RUSHED INTO THE HOUSE AND CALLED FOR HELP—AS HUGE GLOWING EYES STARED IN THROUGH THE WINDOWS.



BUT THE THING SHUFFLED OFF LONG BEFORE THE POLICE ARRIVED.

TRAUMATIZED AND FORCED TO SEEK MEDICAL HELP, MRS. BENNETT WAS LATER HAUNTED BY RECURRING DREAMS AND BELIEVED THE CREATURE REPEATEDLY CAME TO HER OWN HOUSE.

SHREEEEEEEEEEEE

"I CAN FEEL IT," SHE SAID, "AND I'VE HEARD IT—A TERRIBLE SOUND THAT GOES RIGHT THROUGH YOUR BONES, LIKE A WOMAN SCREAMING."



NOW THE STORY REALLY EXPLODED—AND THE CREATURE, FIRST CALLED "THE BIRD," WAS RENAMED "MOTHMAN" AFTER A CAMPY VILLAIN ON THE "BATMAN" TV SHOW.



MORE THAN A HUNDRED PEOPLE WOULD EVENTUALLY CLAIM ENCOUNTERS WITH MOTHMAN AND THEIR DESCRIPTIONS WERE REMARKABLY CONSISTENT:

LARGER THAN A MAN, GRAY WITH (USUALLY) BATLIKE WINGS, NO HEAD, MANLIKE LEGS, LARGE SELF-LUMINOUS EYES, "SHUFFLING" OR "WADDLING" GAIT, "SHRIEKING" OR "SQUEAKING" CRIES, AND IMPOSSIBLE FLYING SPEEDS WITH NO WING MOVEMENT.



ALSO CONSISTENT WAS MOTHMAN'S EFFECT ON WITNESSES—SUCH AS VIRGINIA THOMAS, WHO FOUND HERSELF PARALYZED. "IT TOOK OVER MY THINKING," SHE SAID, "TOOK IT AWAY FROM ME."







ROGER SCARBERRY WAS LATER PLAGUED BY DREAMS OF A MENACING EYEBALL IN THE SKY.



STRANGELY ENOUGH, WEST VIRGINIA HAD HOSTED ANOTHER GLOWING-EYED ENTITY BACK IN 1952 — "THE FLATWOODS MONSTER."

DESCRIBED AS "TEN FEET TALL WITH A BRIGHT GREEN BODY AND BLOOD-RED FACE," THE BEING SPORTED A SNAZZY COLLAR "LIKE THE ACE OF SPADES."



AS FOR MOTHMAN, 18-YEAR-OLD CONNIE CARPENTER WAS THE FIRST AND ONLY WITNESS TO CLEARLY SEE THE THING'S FACE — ON NOVEMBER 27, 1966 — WHEN IT STREAKED STRAIGHT AT HER WINDSHIELD IN BROAD DAYLIGHT.

"IT WAS HORRIBLE," SHE SAID, "LIKE SOMETHING OUT OF A MOVIE. THOSE EYES WERE FIXED ON ME. IT'S A WONDER I DIDN'T HAVE A WRECK." THE CREATURE VEERED OFF ONLY AT THE LAST SECOND.

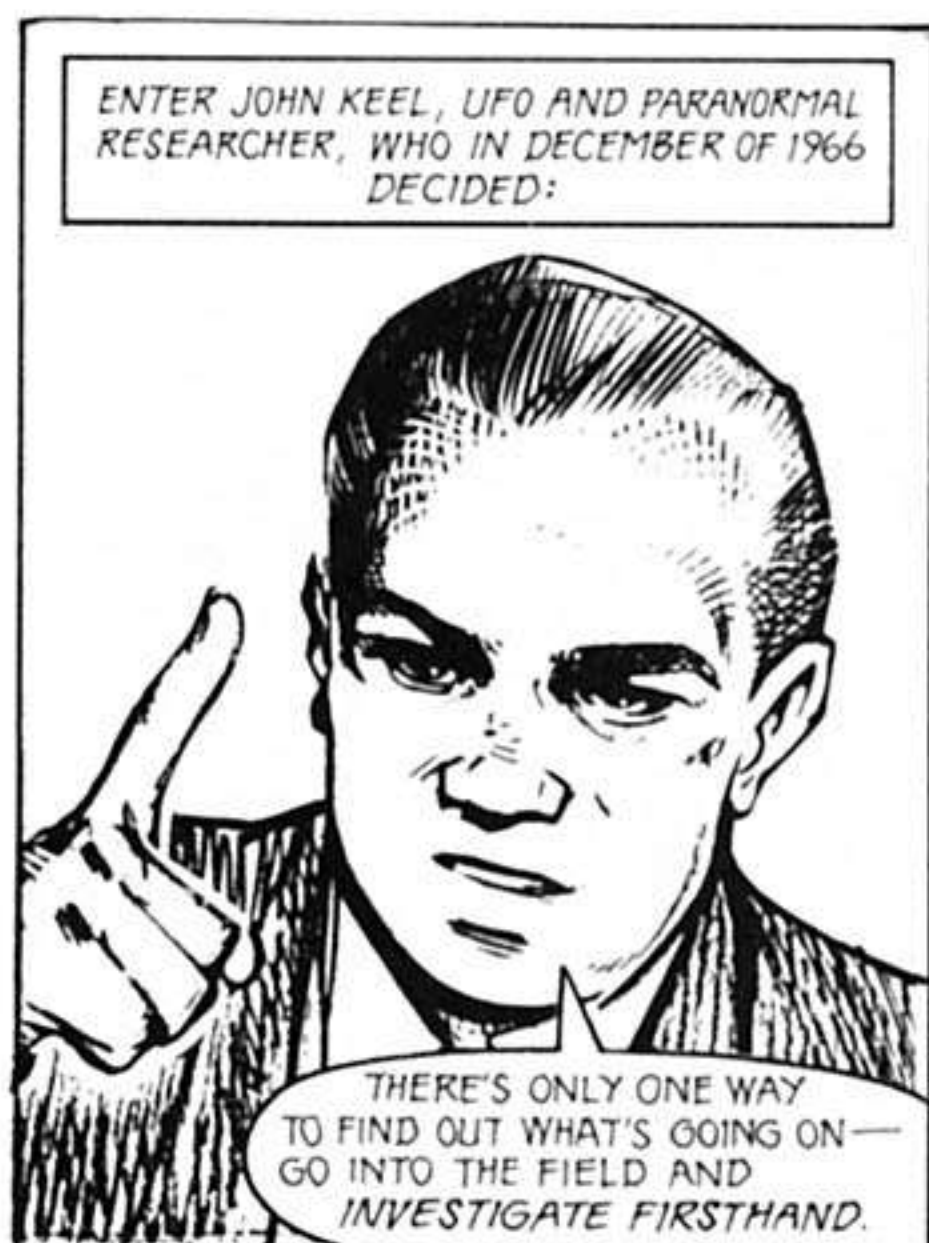


CONNIE CARPENTER WAS ALSO THE ONLY MOTHMAN WITNESS TO SUFFER Klieg CONJUNCTIVITIS — THE ULTRAVIOLET RAY "EYEBURN" COMMONLY REPORTED AFTER UFO SIGHTINGS.



AS USUAL, SKEPTICS WERE QUICK TO OFFER OTHER EXPLANATIONS FOR WHAT THE CREATURE COULD BE — SANDHILL CRANE, GIANT OWL, GLIDER, THE NATIVE AMERICAN "THUNDERBIRD," EVEN A SURVIVING PTERODACTYL — ALL OF WHICH WERE REJECTED BY THE WITNESSES.

ALSO AS USUAL, NONE OF THE ARMCHAIR DEBUNKERS ACTUALLY VISITED THE AREA.



ENTER JOHN KEEL, UFO AND PARANORMAL RESEARCHER, WHO IN DECEMBER OF 1966 DECIDED:

THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO FIND OUT WHAT'S GOING ON — GO INTO THE FIELD AND INVESTIGATE FIRSTHAND.



ALONG WITH THE SENSATIONALLY COVERED MOTHMAN SIGHTINGS, KEEL FOUND THAT THERE WERE ONGOING UFO SIGHTINGS IN THE POINT PLEASANT AREA — UNTIL THEN UNREPORTED IN THE PRESS.

TO KEEL, THE UFOs SEEMED LESS LIKE ALIEN SPACESHIPS THAN "MASSES OF ENERGY PLAYING GAMES WITH HUMAN MINDS."

SPOTTING A NUMBER OF UFOs HIMSELF, IN THE "TNT AREA" AND ELSEWHERE, KEEL BLINKED HIS FLASHLIGHT AT ONE --

HUNH!

-- WHEREUPON THE NOCTURNAL LIGHT PROMPTLY BLINKED BACK.

WHEN KEEL USED MORSE CODE TO BEAM D-E-S-C-E-N-D, THE THING IMMEDIATELY DROPPED IN A WAFTING ZIG-ZAG — THE CLASSIC UFO "FALLING LEAF" DESCENT.

THE DEEPER KEEL DUG, THE MORE WEIRDNESS HE FOUND, RUNNING THE PARANORMAL GAMUT FROM EARLY ANIMAL MUTILATIONS ("SURGICAL INCISIONS, ALL BLOOD DRAINED") AND SIMPLE CROP CIRCLES ( THEN CALLED "SAUCER NESTS") --

-- TO POLTERGEIST ACTIVITY AND THE PRESENCE OF THOSE SINISTER BEINGS KNOWN AS "MEN IN BLACK"

ON FEBRUARY 22, 1967, HER EYE PROBLEMS GONE, CONNIE CARPENTER WAS APPROACHED BY A BLACK BUICK— TWENTY YEARS OLD, BUT SEEMINGLY BRAND-NEW. ASSUMING THE DRIVER NEEDED DIRECTIONS, SHE WENT TO THE CAR—

-- AND WAS ABRUPTLY SEIZED BY THE DRIVER.

GET IN HERE!

AFTER A TERRIFYING STRUGGLE, CONNIE BROKE FREE, RAN HOME AND LOCKED HERSELF IN.

IN RESPONSE TO A LOUD KNOCK THE NEXT DAY, SHE FOUND A NOTE SLIPPED UNDER HER DOOR.

PRINTED IN BLOCK CAPITALS, IT READ: "BE CAREFUL, GIRL. I CAN GET YOU YET."



OTHER MOTHMAN AND UFO WITNESSES RECEIVED VISITS FROM "MEN IN BLACK" POSING AS CENSUS TAKERS, PHOTOGRAPHERS, AND BIBLE SALESMEN.

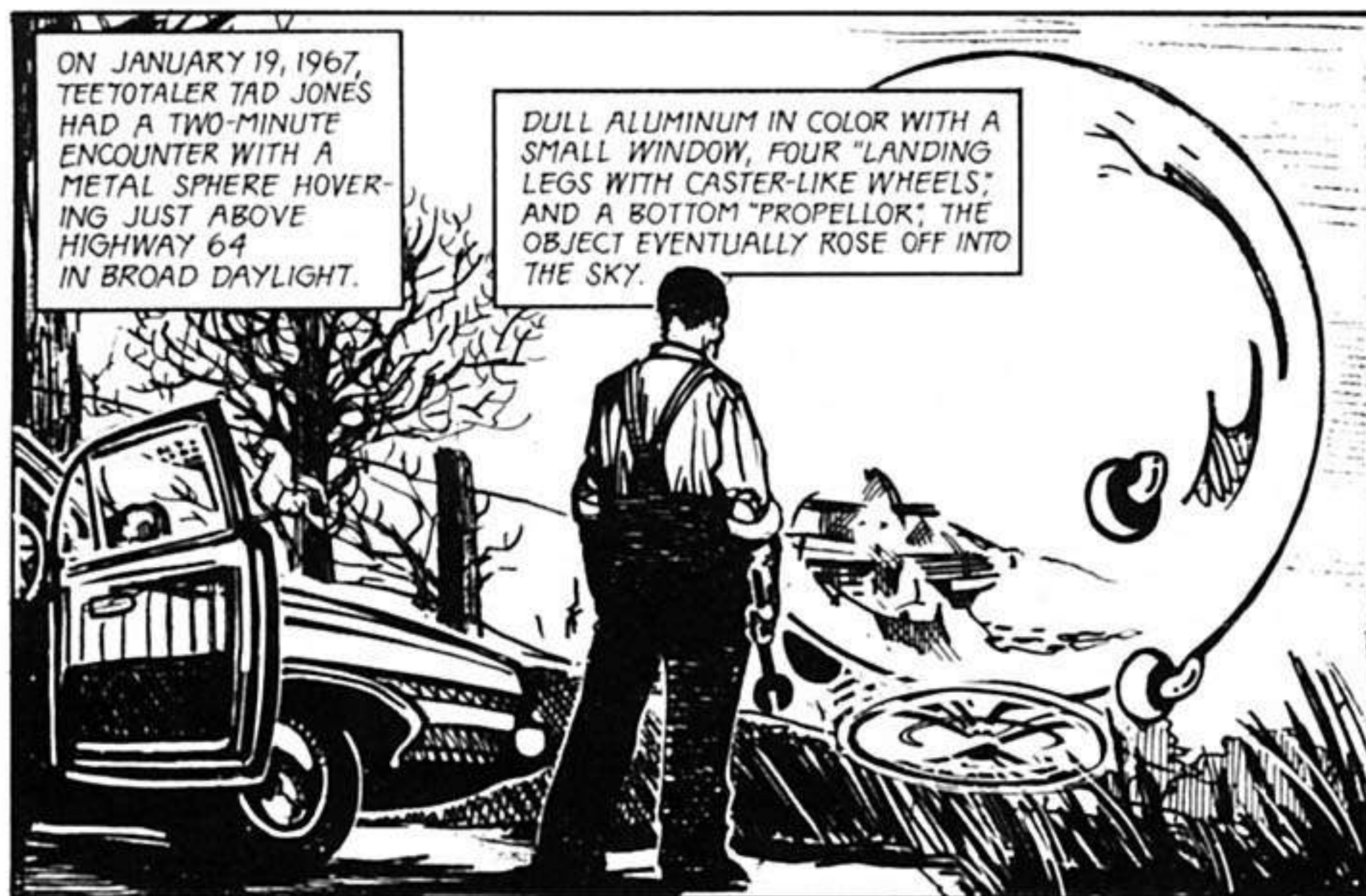


OTHER WITNESSES WERE SUDDENLY CREEPED OUT BY HAYWIRE PHONES AND TVS, FLOATING BALLS OF LIGHT, ODD SMELLS, WEIRD BEEPINGS AND THUMPINGS, THE EERIE SOUNDS OF SPEEDED-UP PHONOGRAPHS, THE CRIES OF PHANTOM BABIES, LOCKED DOORS OPENING BY THEMSELVES, MOVING OR LEVITATING OBJECTS, AND OTHER POLTERGEIST MANIFESTATIONS.



ON JANUARY 19, 1967, TEETOTALER TAD JONES HAD A TWO-MINUTE ENCOUNTER WITH A METAL SPHERE HOVERING JUST ABOVE HIGHWAY 64 IN BROAD DAYLIGHT.

DULL ALUMINUM IN COLOR WITH A SMALL WINDOW, FOUR "LANDING LEGS WITH CASTER-LIKE WHEELS," AND A BOTTOM "PROPELLOR," THE OBJECT EVENTUALLY ROSE OFF INTO THE SKY.



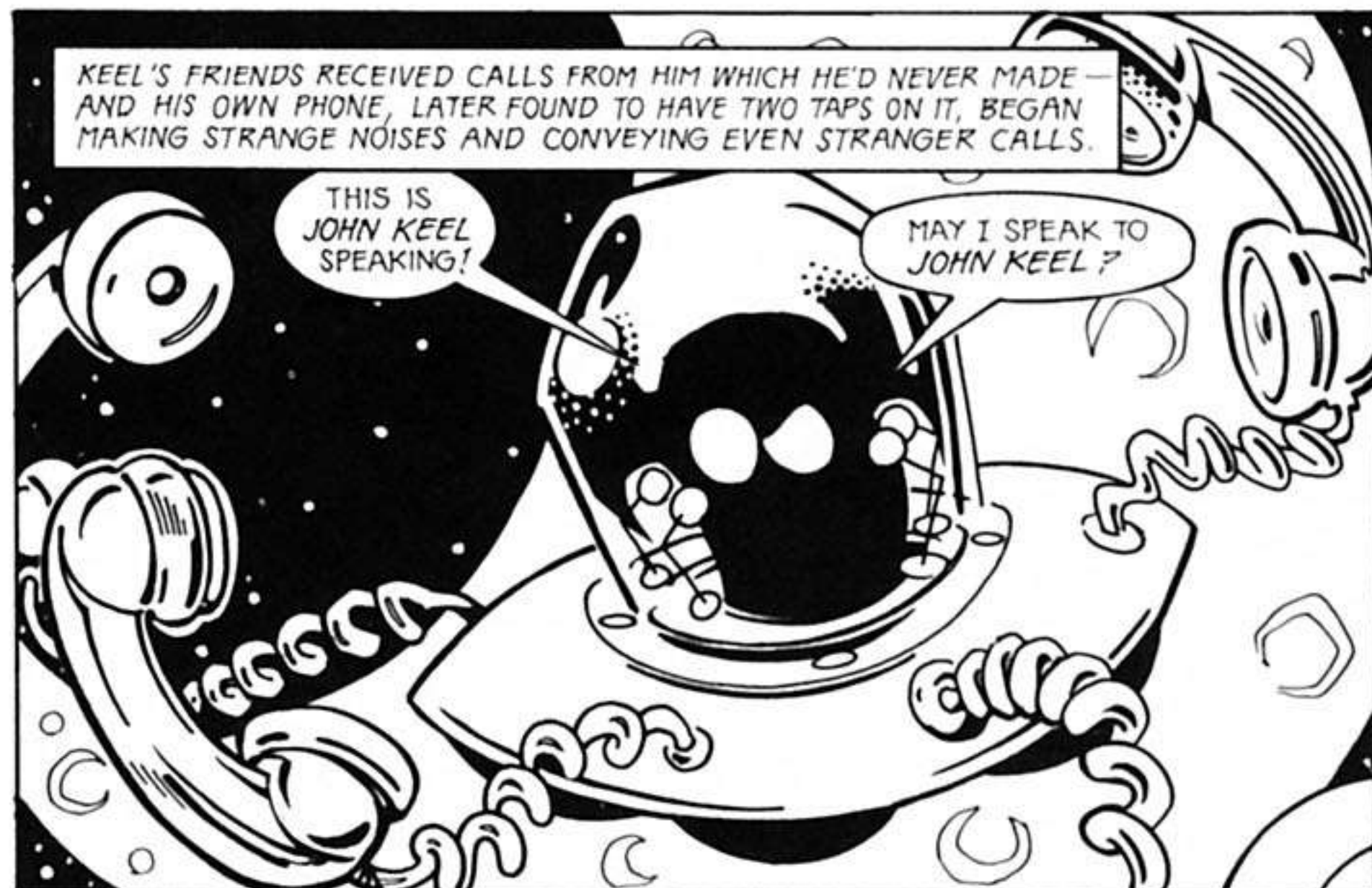
JONES FOUND A SINGED NOTE SLIPPED UNDER HIS DOOR THE FOLLOWING DAY. WHETHER PRANKSTERS OR "MiBs," THEIR SPELLING WAS "WANTING."

WE KNOW WHAT YOU HAVE SEEN AND WE KNOW THAT YOU HAVE TALKED YOU'D BETTER KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT!! YOU WANT BE WARNED AGAIN

JOHN KEEL BEGAN RECEIVING OPENED AND RESEALED MAIL, SOMETIMES CONTAINING XEROXES OF PERSONAL LETTERS STOLEN BY AGENTS UNKNOWN.



KEEL'S FRIENDS RECEIVED CALLS FROM HIM WHICH HE'D NEVER MADE — AND HIS OWN PHONE, LATER FOUND TO HAVE TWO TAPS ON IT, BEGAN MAKING STRANGE NOISES AND CONVEYING EVEN STRANGER CALLS.





ONE CALL IN OCTOBER 1967 WAS FROM A SELF-PROFESSED "UFO ENTITY," WHO WARNED:

THERE WILL BE A MAJOR DISASTER ON THE OHIO RIVER. MANY WILL DROWN.

THE WEIRD VOICE PREDICTED THE TROUBLE WOULD OCCUR ON DECEMBER 15, 1967.

KEEL RELATED THE PREDICTION TO REPORTER MARY HYRE, WHO MENTIONED DREAMS OF PLEADING FACES AND CHRISTMAS PACKAGES FLOATING ON DARK WATERS.

VIRGINIA THOMAS, WHO HAD BEEN "PARALYZED AND HYPNOTIZED" BY MOTHMAN, WAS ALSO HAVING NIGHTMARES OF PEOPLE DROWNING IN THE OHIO RIVER.

ON A DRIVE TO LONG ISLAND, KEEL CHOSE A MOTEL AT RANDOM— ONLY TO FIND THAT HE WAS INEXPLICABLY EXPECTED.

WE HAVE A LOT OF MESSAGES FOR YOU, MR. KEEL.

VACANCIES!

THE NOTES, KEEL SAYS, WERE ALL "NONSENSICAL."

FACED WITH A HUNDRED MOTHMAN WITNESSES AND THOUSANDS OF UFO SIGHTINGS IN THE SAME AREA, KEEL CONCLUDED THE TWO WERE CONNECTED— YET THERE WAS ONLY A SINGLE DIRECT LINK.

BACK ON MAY 19, 1967, TWO WOMEN SAW MOTHMAN RISE FROM A TREE TO "MEET A BIG RED LIGHT" HOVERING OVER THE "TNT AREA"— WHEREUPON THE UFO FLEW OFF TO THE NORTH.

AT EVENING RUSH HOUR ON DECEMBER 15, 1967— THE DATE PROPHESED FOR DISASTER AND 13 MONTHS TO THE DAY SINCE THE SCARBERRY SIGHTING— SILVER BRIDGE WAS PACKED WITH 31 VEHICLES--

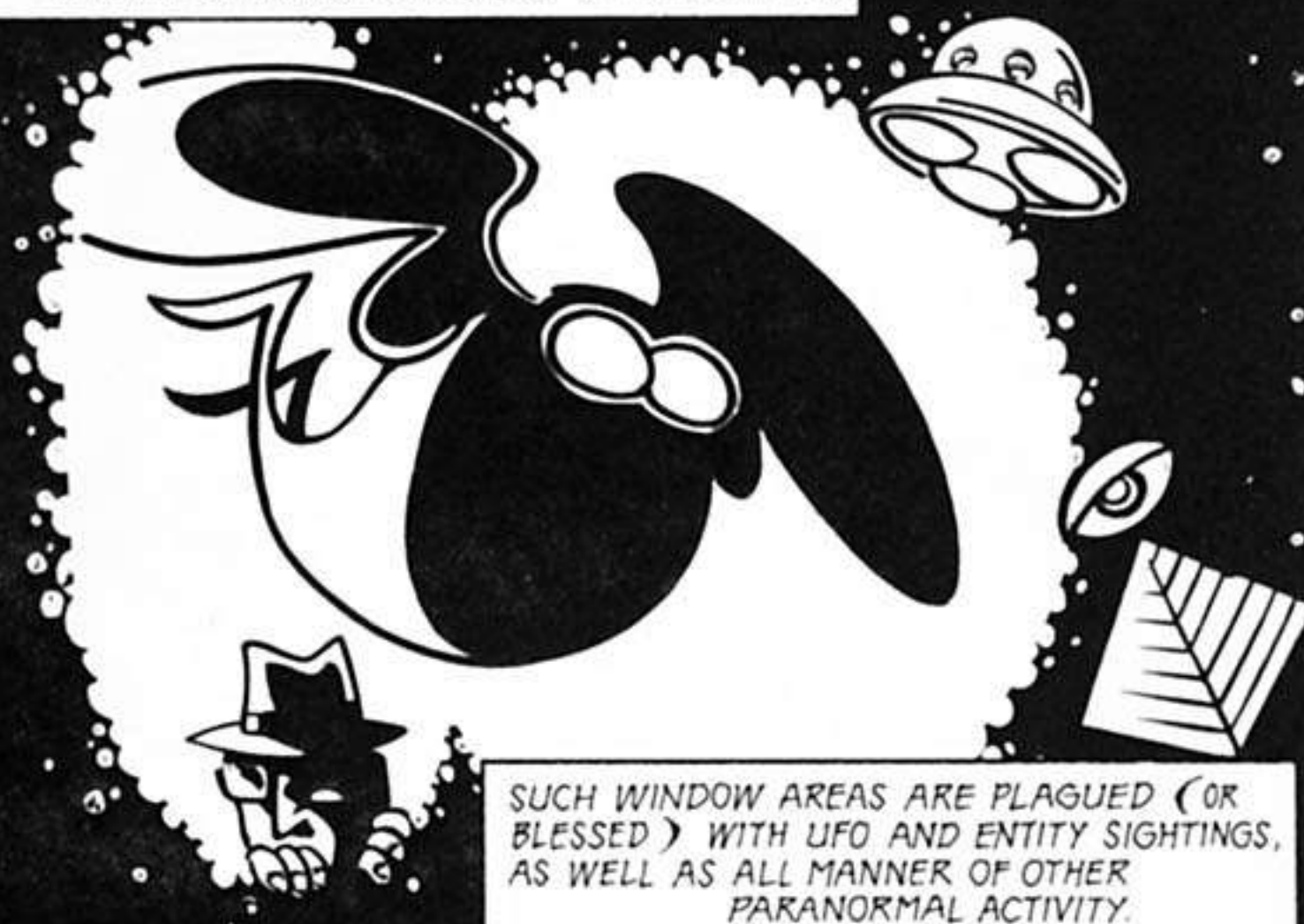
AT 5:05 PM, THE RICKETY SUSPENSION BRIDGE COLLAPSED— AND, JUST AS JOHN KEEL HAD BEEN WARNED, JUST AS MARY HYRE AND VIRGINIA THOMAS HAD DREAMED, FLOATING CHRISTMAS PACKAGES BROKE RESCUE WORKERS' HEARTS.

THE DEATH TOLL WAS AT LEAST 46 AND PERHAPS 52, WITH SIX MISSING PERSONS NEVER ACCOUNTED FOR.

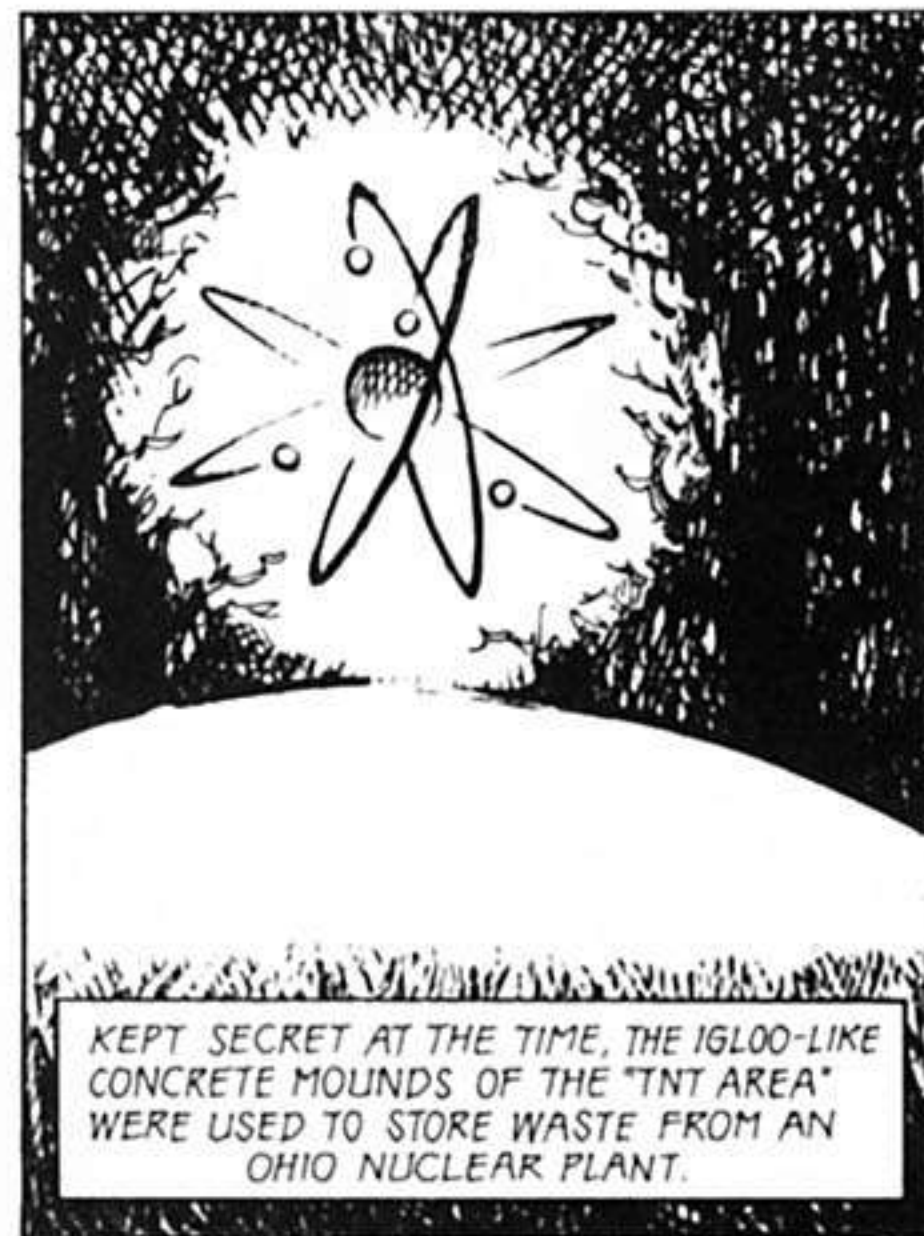
-- MANY OF THEM BEARING CHRISTMAS SHOPPERS.



JOHN KEEL PEGS POINT PLEASANT, WEST VIRGINIA AS A "WINDOW AREA"—A PLACE OFFERING GLIMPSES OF OTHER REALITIES.



SUCH WINDOW AREAS ARE PLAGUED (OR BLESSED) WITH UFO AND ENTITY SIGHTINGS, AS WELL AS ALL MANNER OF OTHER PARANORMAL ACTIVITY.



KEPT SECRET AT THE TIME, THE IGLOO-LIKE CONCRETE MOUNDS OF THE "TNT AREA" WERE USED TO STORE WASTE FROM AN OHIO NUCLEAR PLANT.



WAS POINT PLEASANT'S "WINDOW" SOMEHOW OPENED BY NUCLEAR RADIATION? OR DID STRANGE BEINGS OPEN THE WINDOW FROM THE OTHER SIDE, PERHAPS ATTRACTED OR ALARMED BY THE NUCLEAR WASTE? DID THESE BEINGS SOMEHOW CAUSE THE SILVER BRIDGE DISASTER?

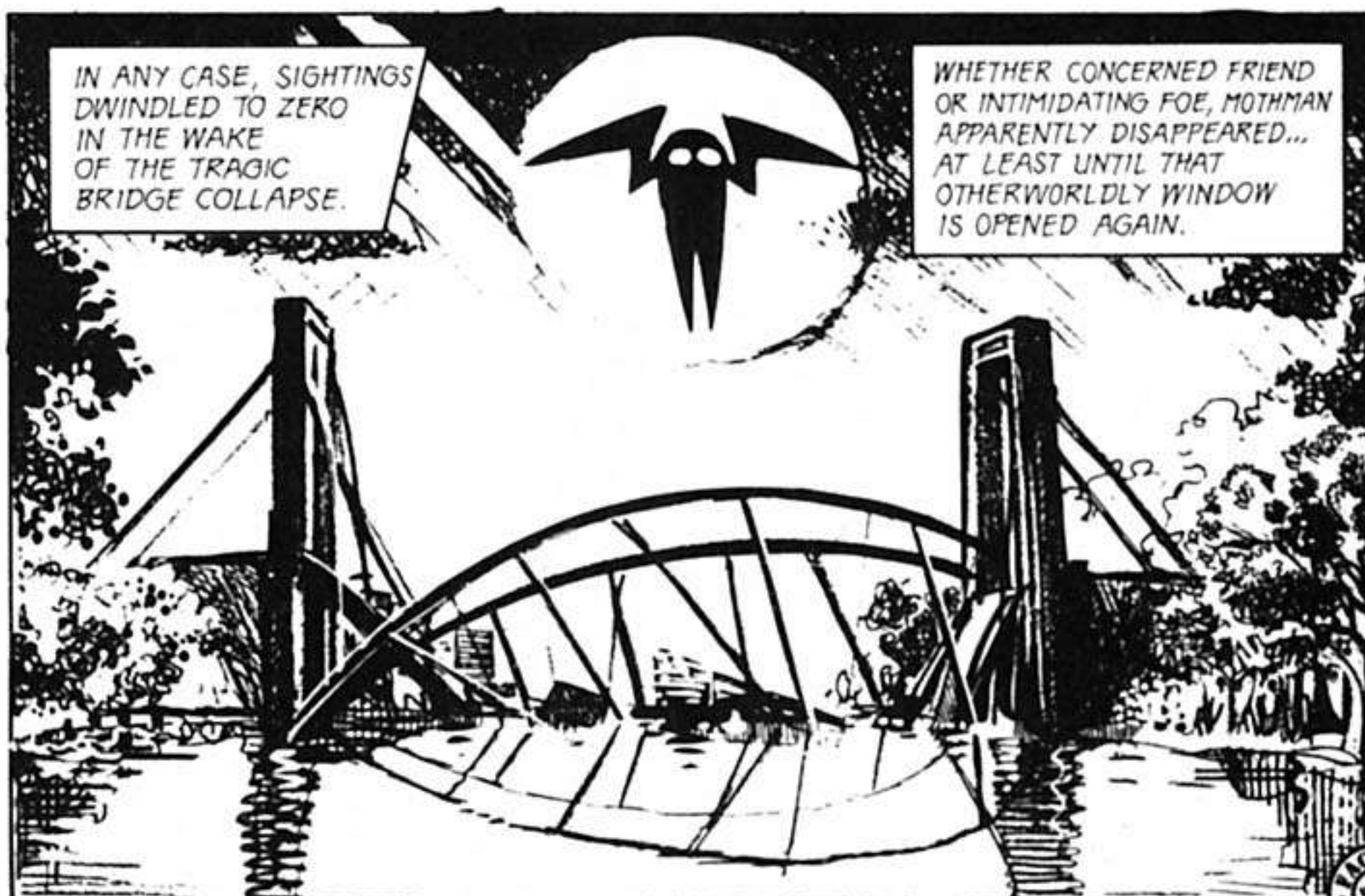


IF NOT—AND IF THE NUKE WASTE WAS IRRELEVANT—WAS THERE SOME *OTHER* PURPOSE BEHIND THE MOTHMAN VISITATIONS? DID THE WEIRDNESS CONSTITUTE A PORTENT OF IMPENDING TRAGEDY? WERE THE DREAMS HYPNOTICALLY IMPLANTED?



CLAIMING "HUNDREDS" OF EVENTUAL MOTHMAN ENCOUNTERS, EARLY WITNESS LINDA SCARBERRY SAYS: "IT DOESN'T WANT TO HURT YOU. IT JUST WANTS TO COMMUNICATE."

IF SO, THE RESULTS WERE GARBLED AT BEST



IN ANY CASE, SIGHTINGS DWINDLED TO ZERO IN THE WAKE OF THE TRAGIC BRIDGE COLLAPSE.

WHETHER CONCERNED FRIEND OR INTIMIDATING FOE, MOTHMAN APPARENTLY DISAPPEARED... AT LEAST UNTIL THAT OTHERWORLDLY WINDOW IS OPENED AGAIN.



LET'S BRACE OURSELVES SHALL WE, AS WE EXAMINE THIS SCARY CHARACTER, CRYPTOZOOLOGY'S LATEST AND GREATEST PARANORMAL PREDATOR, A PRETERNATURAL NIGHT-GOBLIN WHICH HAS BEEN DUBBED EL CHUPACABRAS -- WHICH IS SPANISH FOR--

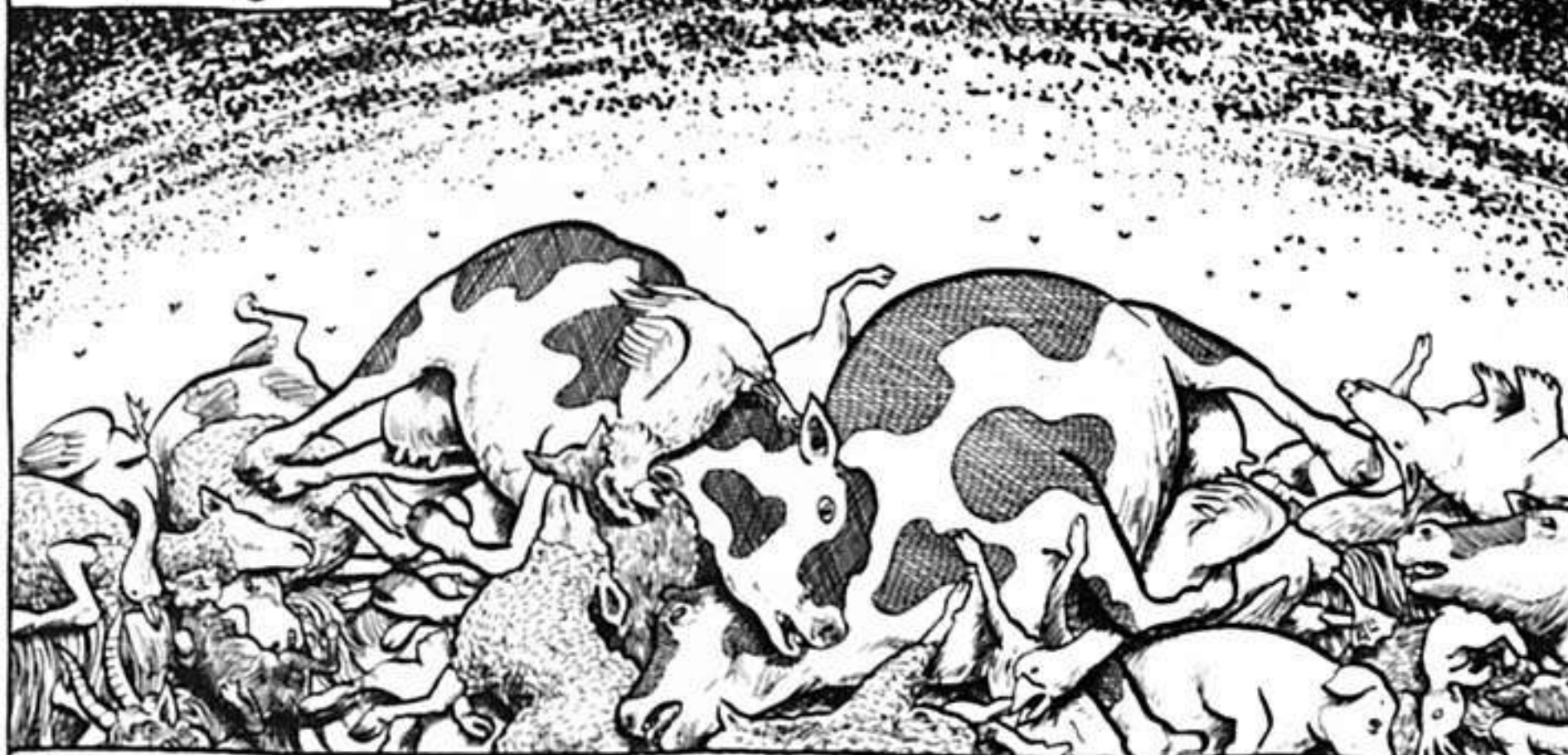
# THE GOATSUCKER



It began in the spring of 1995, with the alarming discovery of bloodless carcasses on the island of Puerto Rico.

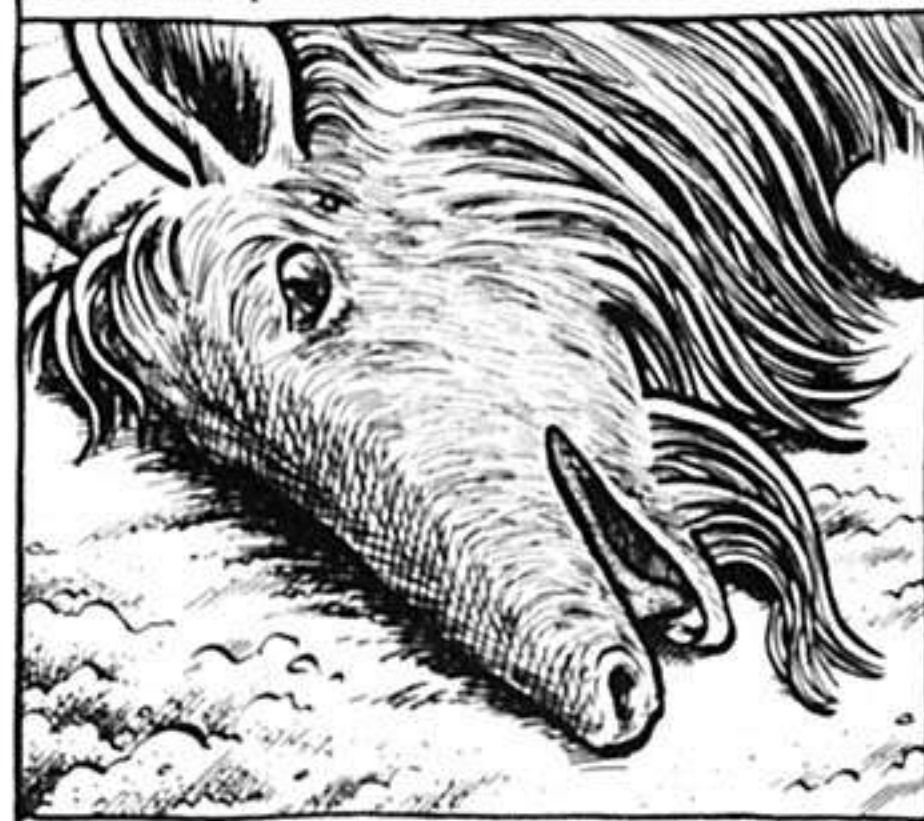


Exsanguinated victims rapidly climbed into the hundreds, not all of them sacrificial goats.



There were also sheep, cattle, horses, dogs, cats, rabbits, ducks, geese, chickens, and various other farm and domestic animals -- anything, in short, containing the elixir vitae blood.

It was a strange Puerto Rican variant of cattle mutilations -- but instead of laser-clean surgical incisions, the victims bore small deep circular puncture wounds --



--through which all blood had been drained...or sucked.

The authorities quickly blamed some mundane suspects: Packs of wild dogs and "savage Rhesus monkeys escaped from an experimental laboratory."



But many Puerto Rican people familiar with the signs of normal predation did not agree.

When veterinarian Carlos Soto explained in scientific terms that normal animal biting would have produced some mauling of the skin--



--the official culprit then became "a single-fanged dog."



But according to researcher Jorge Martin, whatever creates the characteristic puncture "seems to cauterize the wound" while preventing "natural inflammatory processes," rigor mortis, and coagulation of remaining blood traces.

NO KNOWN ANIMAL SPECIES ON EARTH CAN DO THIS.



Ignoring these claims, the authorities changed their opinion to "vultures."

Rejecting the authorities' shifting views, the people began reporting what their own eyes had seen.



"At first I thought it was a dog," said one witness...

"But then it stood up--"



MADRE DE DIOS!

--and it soon became known as **El Chupacabras** — named for its goatsucking proficiency.

From composite descriptions, Martin says the nightmarish 4-foot-tall Goatsucker is a winged biped with coarse black hair.



It has clawed forelimbs, strong hind legs, and spinal appendages "like quills with fleshy membranes which change color from blue to green, red, and purple."

Its oddly fanged oval head has an elongated jaw and huge glowing red eyes with green pupils.



(In the face of this, the authorities tried to explain it away as "big cats" or "vampire bats.")

Since the predation sites lacked signs of struggle, it has been suggested that the Goatsucker's victims are "mesmerized" into submission by its penetrating stare.



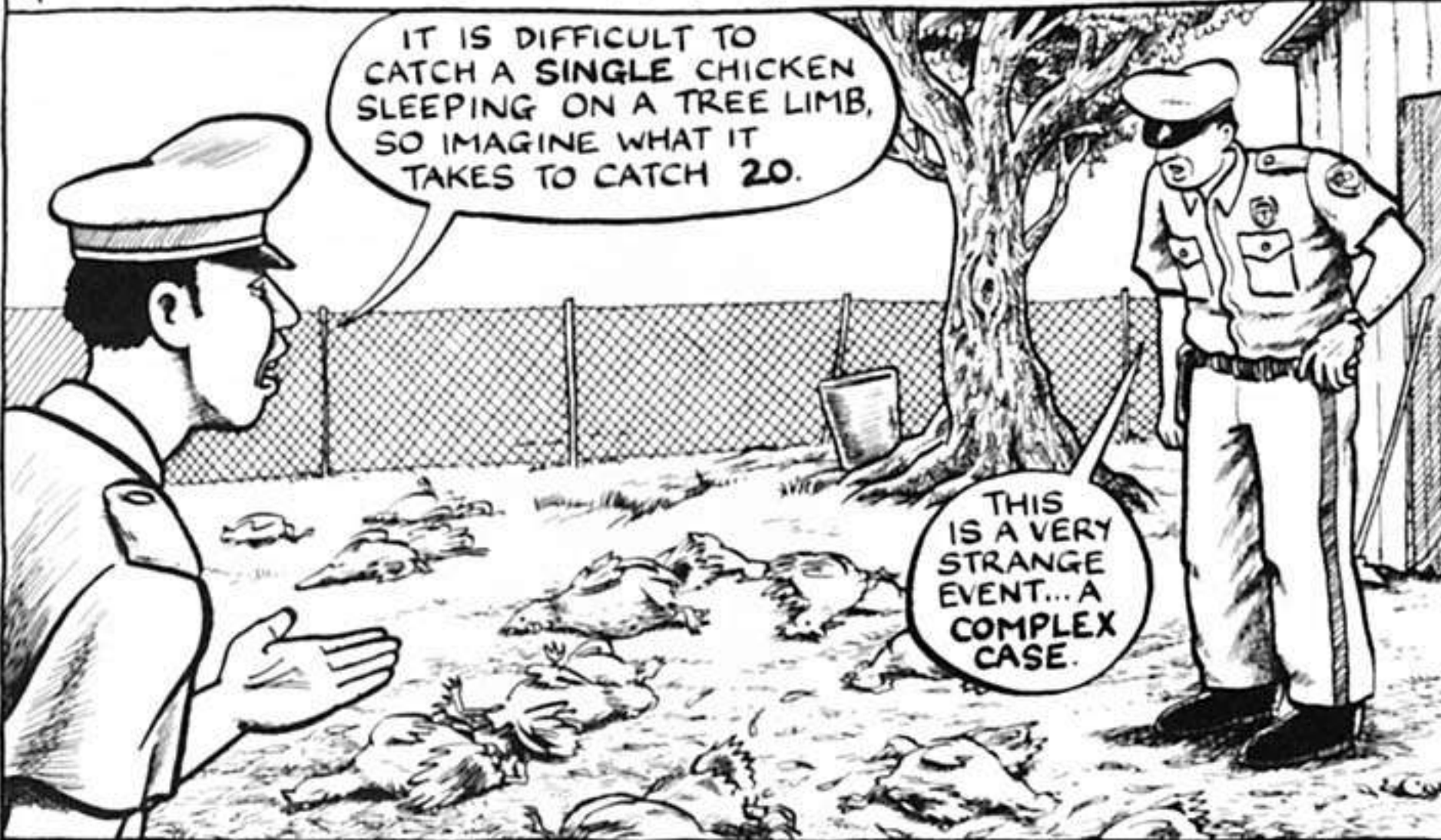
Others claimed they were made "sleepy and faint" by the Goatsucker's "weird hissing sound."



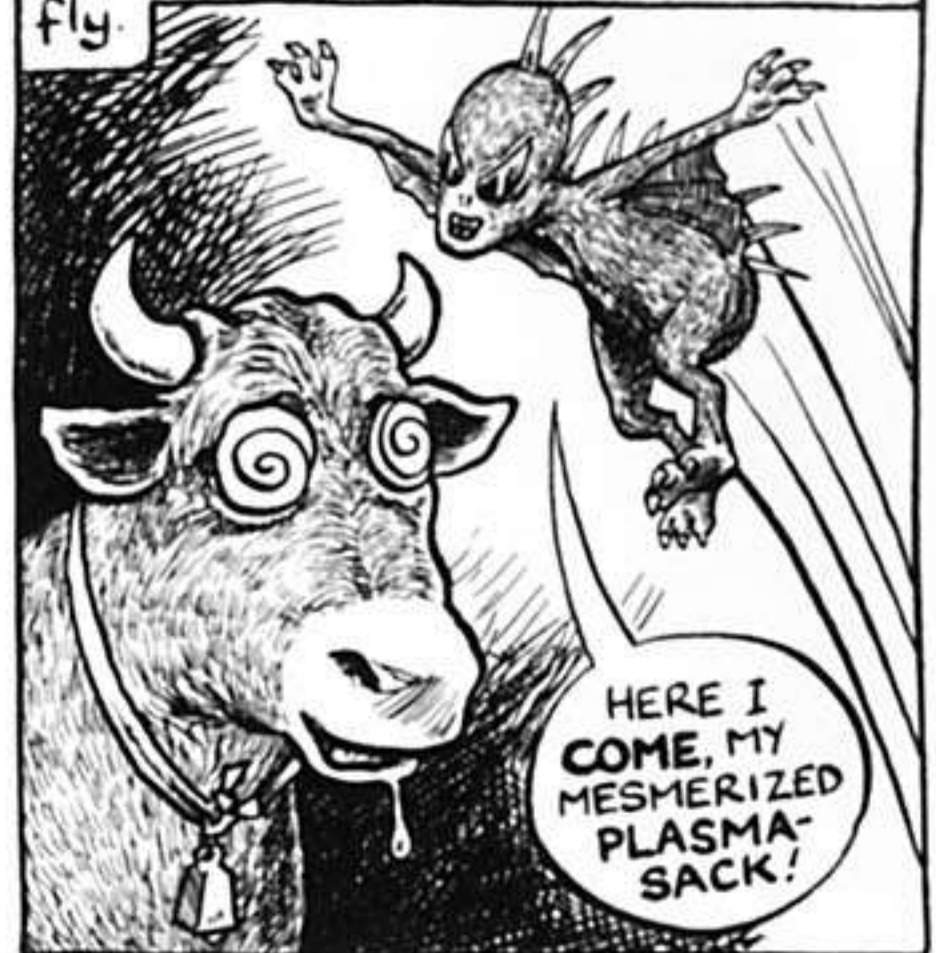
During a broad daylight encounter on April 2, 1995, one witness actually passed out as a group of others experienced "extreme nausea."



And on May 8, 1996, Lt. Victor Santiago was utterly stumped by the deaths of 20 blood-sucked chickens in Villalba, Puerto Rico.



The Goatsucker reportedly "gallops" at extreme speed and is capable of leaping more than 20 feet in a single bound. Some even say it can fly.



Lucy Batista describes the Goatsucker's inhuman scream as "the combined sound of a cat's yowling and a goat's braying."



It caused her, she admits, to "feel fear."

Scott Corrales interviewed Dona Maria de Gomez, a woman who interrupted the Goatsucker's attack on a puppy outside her home near El Yunque rain forest.



She said, "It was the ugliest thing I'd ever seen."

Face to face with the thing, Mrs. Gomez found herself bitterly thinking:



As if reading the woman's mind—and wounded by her mental epithets—the grotesque creature stumbled back, drawing a protective wing across its face—



-- then leaped onto her terrace rail and flew off into the night.



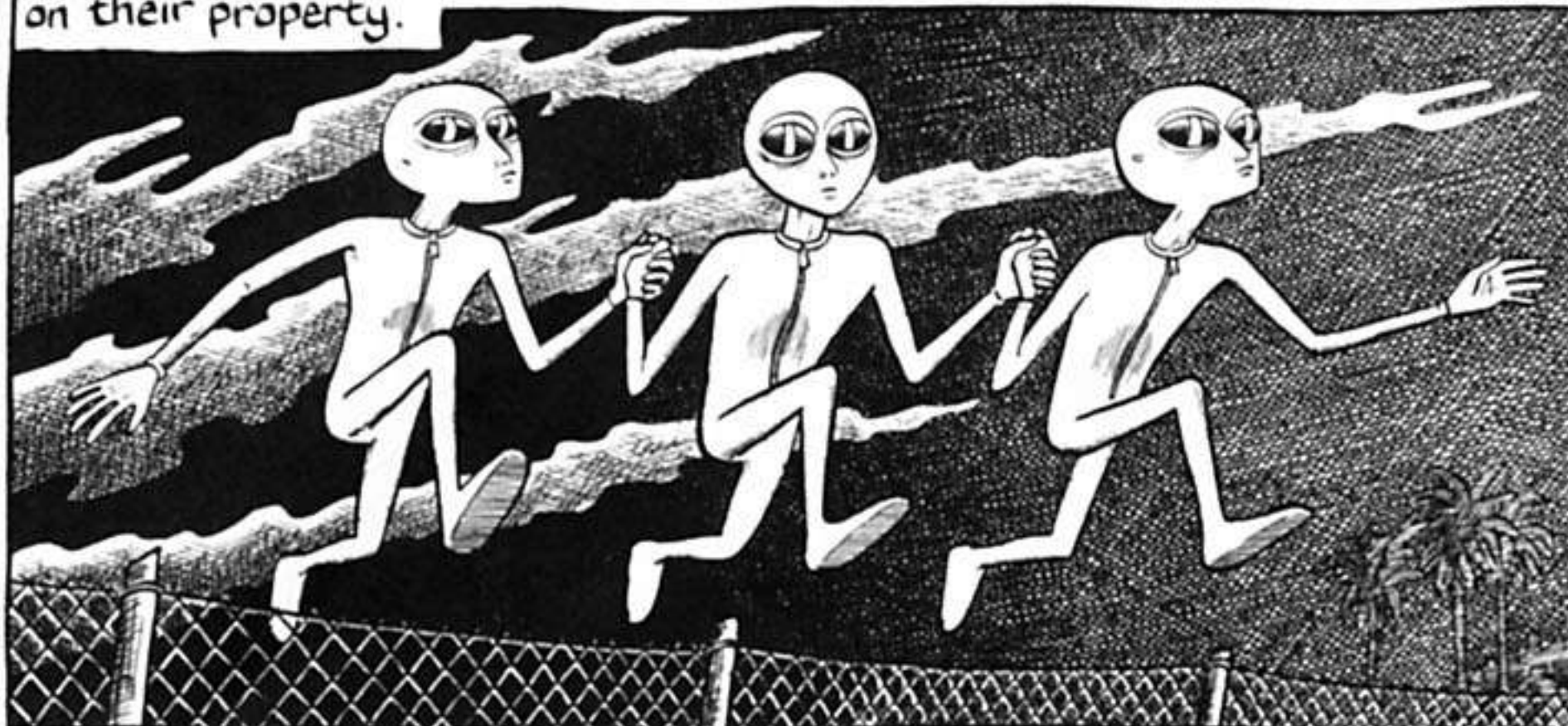
Researcher Corrales learned that other strange entities had been seen on the Gomez plantation--



--including a Bigfoot-like creature glimpsed a few years before the encounter with the Goatsucker.

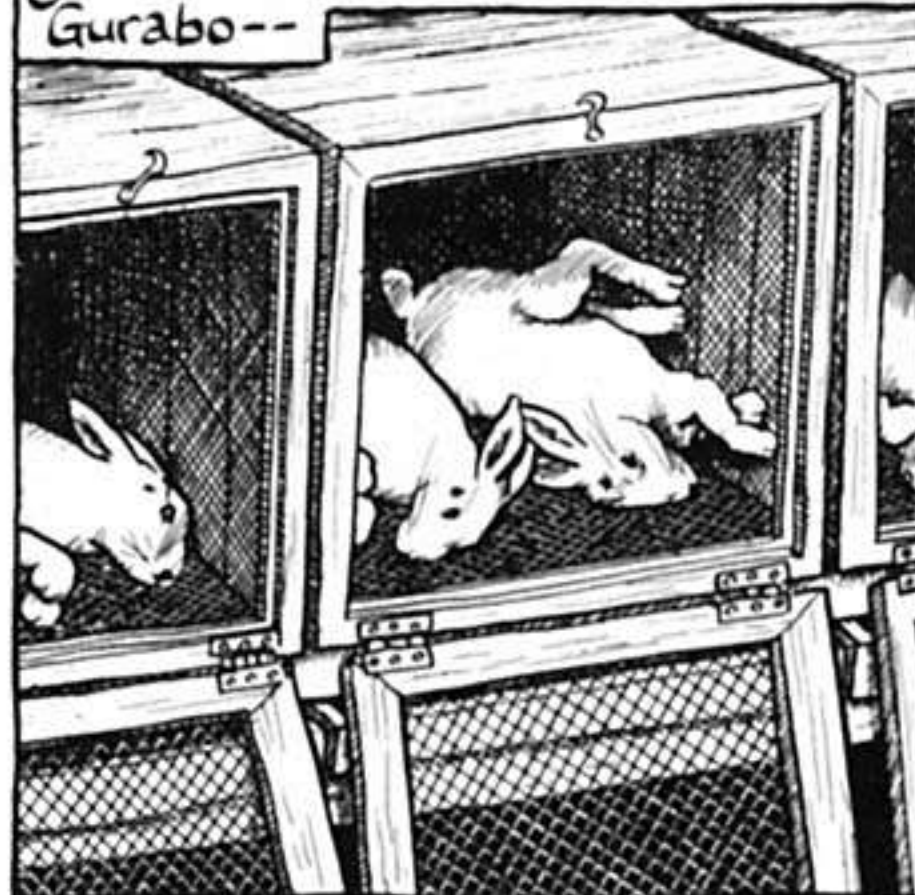


Perhaps strangest of all, Mrs. Gomez and her daughter had also seen silver-suited "alien Greys" holding hands as they "jumped" over a fence on their property.



The woman believes all these beings came from the rain forest, either angered or drawn by the "nauseating odor" from an illegal dumpsite near her home.

Corrales also interviewed Mr. Jesus Sanchez, a man who raised backyard rabbits in the town of Gurabo--



--until something opened the cages and drained the bunnies.

Sanchez staked out the cages and caught the blood-thief red-handed at 4 a.m. a few nights later.



Blinded by Sanchez's light, the mysterious predator fled in panic, receiving two vengeful machete hacks before it could escape.



"The blows," Sanchez said with a shudder, "sounded like hits on a drum."

Sanchez may have thought about running for his machete again when a Department of Natural Resources official warned him that--



YOU WILL BE PROSECUTED IF YOU KILL A PROTECTED CREATURE.

HOW CAN YOU PROTECT A CREATURE WHICH YOU CLAIM DOES NOT EXIST?

AND IF YOU DO PROTECT IT, YOU WILL BE GUILTY OF COMPLICITY IN HUNDREDS OF ANIMAL KILLINGS!

Recalling his hellish confrontation (with the Goatsucker, not the bureaucrat), Sanchez has no doubt that El Chupacabras is an "agent of Satan."





Bloodless carcasses continued to be found—sometimes after nights filled with the horrible sounds of shrieking livestock.



The authorities came up with a new scapegoat: "Satanic sects."



Considering the numbers and widespread nature of the killings, Puerto Rico was apparently suffering from an incredible influx of dedicated devil-worshippers.

SO WHAT WAS HAPPENING ON THIS CARIBBEAN ISLAND? WHO OR WHAT WAS TRULY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ABRUPT BLOOD-LETTING?



AND IF "EL CHUPACABRAS" WAS REAL, WHAT ON EARTH WAS IT?

Calling the Goatsucker an "ABE" (Alien Biological Entity), Jorge Martin thinks it resembles a cross between an "alien Grey" and a "bipedal erect dinosaur with no tail."



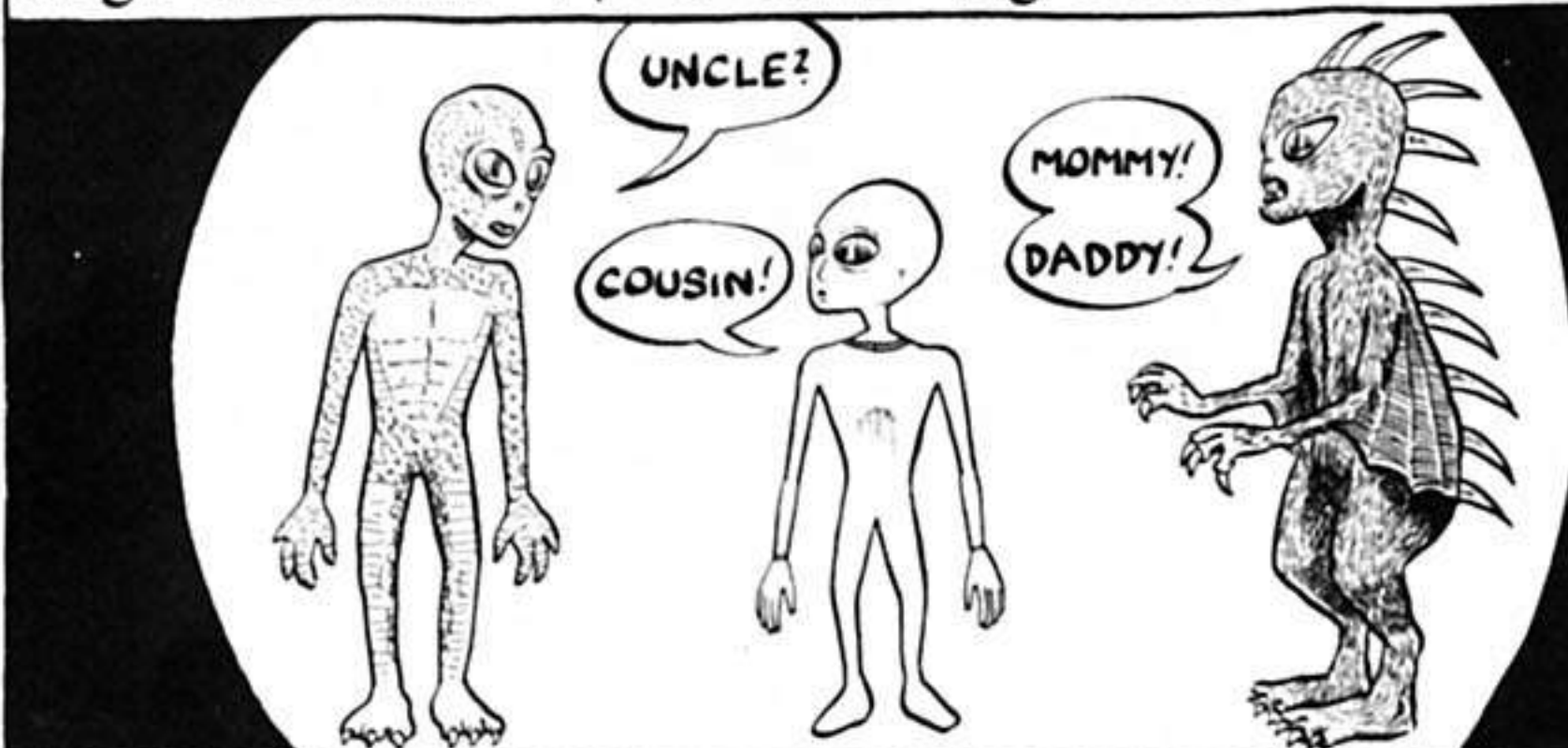
The "Grey" analogy may seem like a stretch--

--until we add the paleontological model of an "intelligent dinosaur" currently on display in some museums--



--an extrapolation of what a small bipedal dinosaur would look like had it continued evolving rather than going extinct.

The similarity, however, is closest between "evolved dinosaur" and "alien Grey" — and UFO abductees have, in fact, described "reptilian Greys" in command of plain-vanilla Grey "drones."



Could El Chupacabras be a "hybrid offshoot" of the "reptilian Greys"? The authorities also tried a more down-to-earth version of this possibility, suggesting an "escaped biogenetic experiment."

And Martin cites the "electronic" genetic scrambling done by Chinese-Russian scientist Dr. Tsian Kanchen--



--in which "high-frequency biological linking" has produced cross-species plants and animals such as corn-wheat, chicken-ducks, and rabbit-goats.



Furthermore, UFOnuts have already been blamed for the creation of another mystery humanoid, supposedly splicing human and ape DNA to make Sasquatch, Yeti, or Bigfoot.

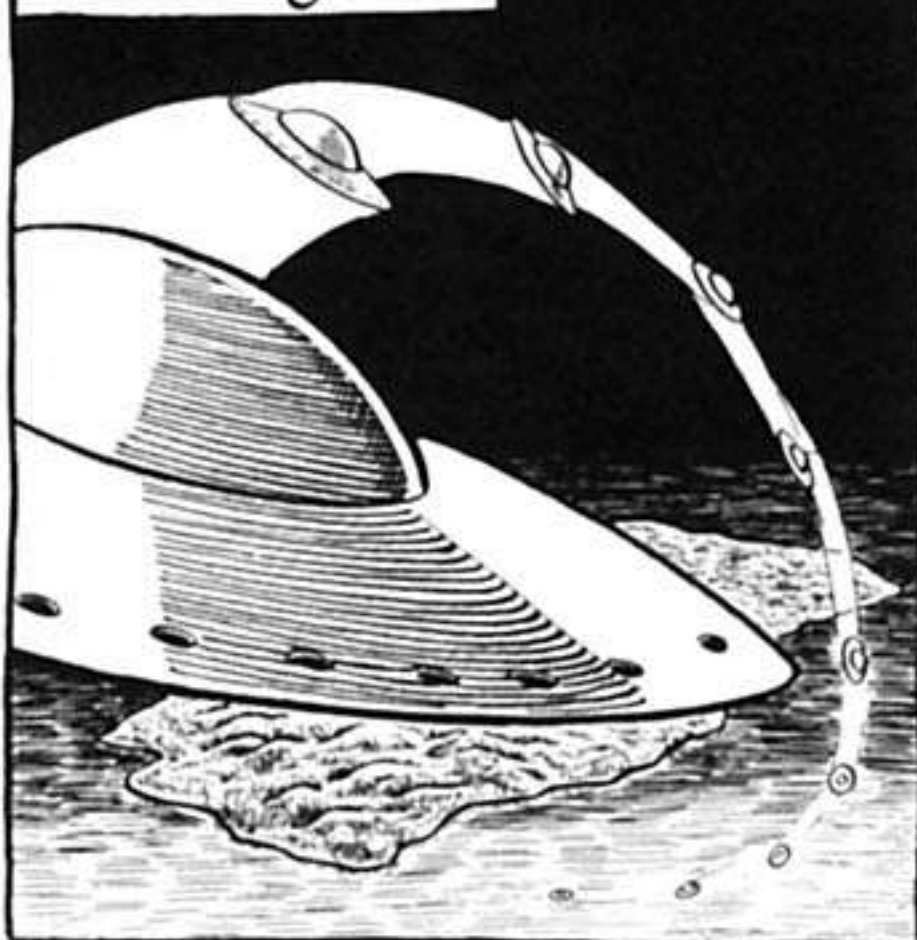


And two other weird humanoids associated with UFOs – West Virginia's "Mothman" and "the Jersey Devil" – both share the Goatsucker's large red-glowing eyes.

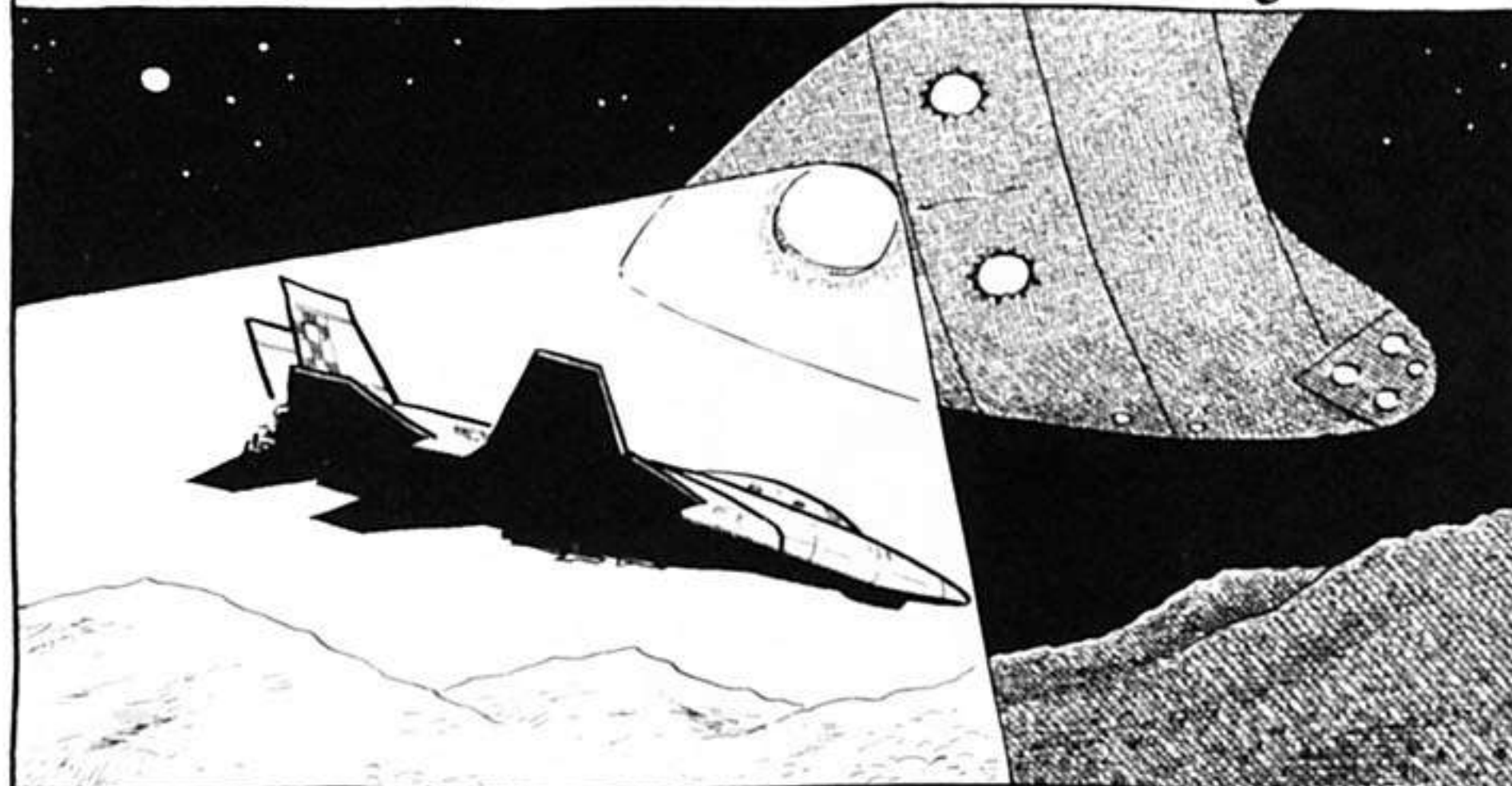


But is there any evidence of serious UFO activity in Puerto Rico? Actually, there is.

Puerto Rico has long been a UFO hot-spot. In the 90's continuous sightings have even spawned rumors of alien activity at a local U.S. military base.



Shortly before the Goatsucker's first appearance, witnesses saw a U.S. fighter jet "disappear into a UFO" it had been "chasing."



Investigators disagree as to whether the jet was "captured" or "docking."

In early November of 1995, amidst sightings of triangular and pyramidal UFOs as well as luminous discs, Martin and others claim that "at least two" Goatsuckers were captured in El Yunque rainforest.



Both were allegedly taken alive to the U.S. mainland.

Also in November, and heavily reported in the media, a UFO was seen hovering above the antenna of an AM radio station in Barranquitas.



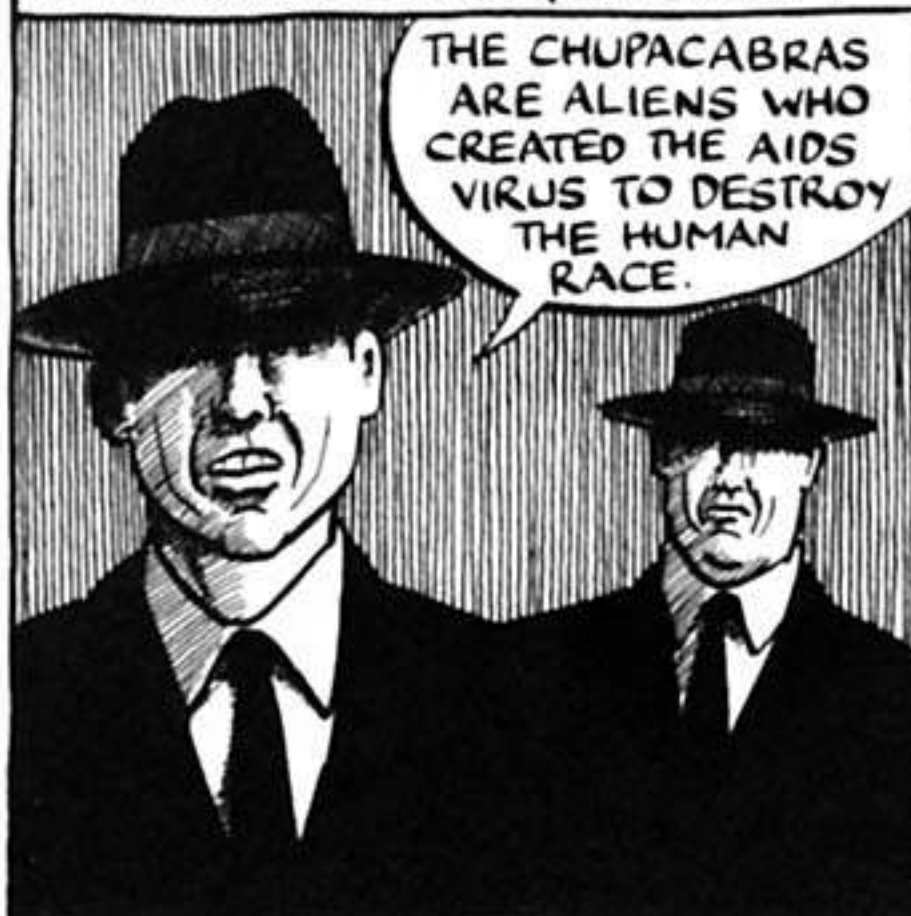
The press omitted one aspect: Nearby encounters with "ABE creatures" minutes before and after.



A woman in Canovas claimed that a Goatsucker "jumped, flew, and entered a round luminous object" above her car:



Men in Black (who, according to Martin, were from "bogus UFO groups organized by U.S. Intelligence") quickly and predictably materialized to "disseminate disinformation":



But why would the blood-feeders pollute their own meals? Let's remember that all the people involved don't exactly get together and meet to make their theories all jibe with each other.



Some officials, such as Canovas Mayor Jose Soto, took El Chupacabras more seriously.



Mayor Soto organized citizen militias of up to 100 men, and even baited a cage with a bloody goat carcass--



Even so, a member of the Puerto Rican House of Representatives, Juan E. Lopez, introduced House Resolution 5012 on Nov. 9, 1995:

#### RESOLUTION

To order the House of Representatives Agriculture Commission to do a profound and exhaustive investigation to clarify the unknown phenomenon and account the damages caused by "Chupacabras" to the farmers of this country.

Even policemen became believers--especially the Canovas officer whose .357 Magnum painted a wall with Goatsucker blood.



After the wounded creature fled, the cop was "so shocked" that he "immediately cleaned up the mess."

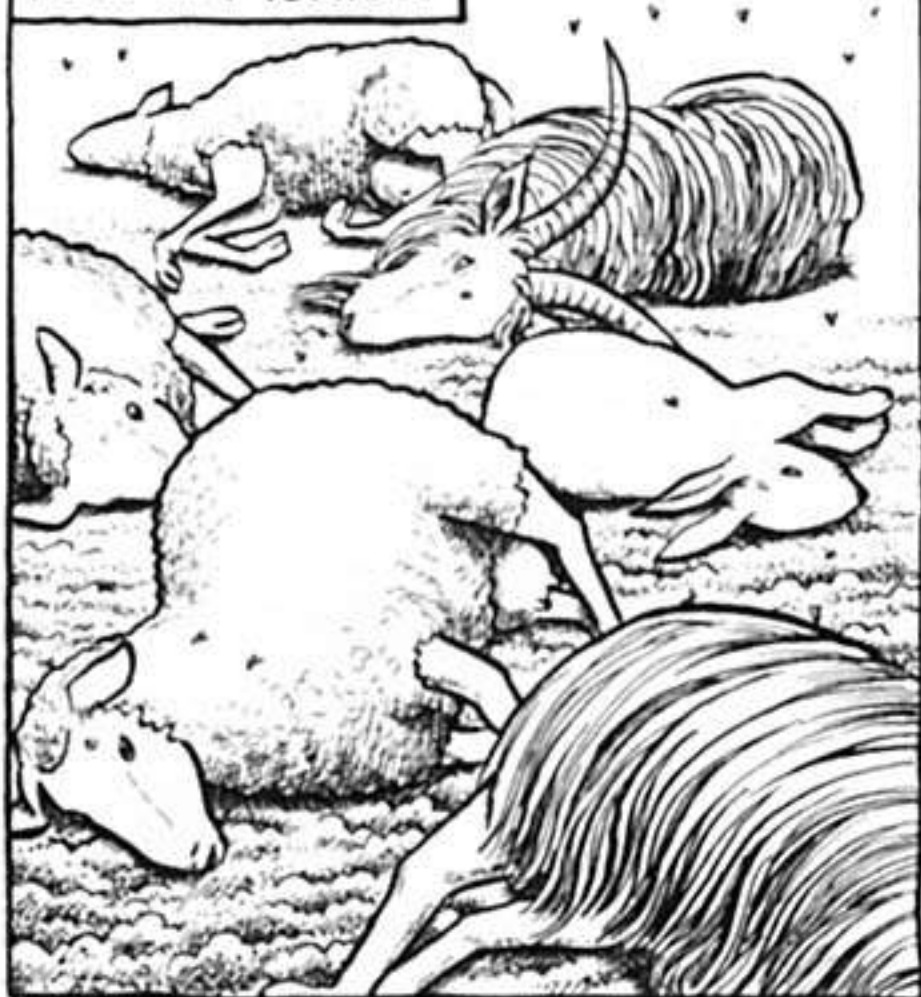
Analysis of blood collected from a nearby fence, however, produced this, according to Martin: "Sample #3. The blood is in no way compatible with human blood--"



--nor with any other blood type belonging to any animal species known to science."



Beginning in February of 1996, hundreds more bloodless animals began turning up — but now in Mexico.



Mexican authorities tried blaming Haitian-spawned voodoo and Santeria practitioners—but again, only an army of converts could account for all the sudden carnage.



Besides, animal sacrifice makes for one hell of a mess, whereas the Chupacabras mystery is distinguished by the complete absence of blood.

Catholic representatives, specifically Archbishop of Morelia, Alberto Suarez Inda, called for calm.

THERE EXISTS VERY STRANGE PHENOMENA WHICH ARE COMPLICATED TO INVESTIGATE AND DEMAND ALL AVAILABLE TIME AND MEANS TO BE SOLVED.



This hardly stopped cosmopolitan Mexicans from pronouncing the matter settled, although there had been no serious investigation --

CHUPACABRAS IS ALL TALK.

IT IS BOOL-SHEET.



--even as their rural brethren were reporting slow-moving globes of light in areas where drained carcasses were later found.



Called "brujas"—meaning "witches"—these light-balls have been seen for centuries.

Meanwhile, in Peru, weird mandrill-like creatures, called "Isnashi," have reportedly been exsanguinating their prey.



After Costa Rican Erlinda Vega claimed that a Goatsucker-like being attacked her (a bloodless heifer was also found at the site), sociologist Francisco Escobar blamed it on a vampire bat and superstition.



"The real Chupacabras," Escobar said, "is poverty and lack of education"—even though "significant radiation" has been detected at Costa Rican and Guatemalan Chupacabras sites.



Even as the Goatsucker rampaged through Puerto Rico, Mexico, Central America and South America, the phenomenon occurred in Florida, Texas, and California.



Possibly supporting the superstition theory, the U.S. reports invariably come from Hispanic or Latino communities.

So if the Goatsucker is a thought-form "Tulpa" or an "archetype" created by Jung's "collective unconscious"... then what the devil is going on in Hispanic heads these days?



Maybe El Chupacabras is merely a Latino counterpart of the European vampire myth...?



Given its Pan-like legs, as well as reports of "the strong smell of sulphur," some suggest that the Goatsucker is not just a vampire, but a "demon"—or worse yet, a "god."



After all, is the gargoyle-like Chupacabras any different from the goat-hooved Satyr of ancient Greece? And what about the goat-headed god-demon Baal? Both reveled in blood and excess.

Indeed, literally millions of lives have been sacrificed to gods throughout history, enabling deities to gorge and get drunk on oceans of blood, both animal and human. For example, using "assembly lines" of priests, the Aztecs alone ripped out hearts by the thousands.



And lest we think the grisly practice is confined to "superstitious pagan cultures," remember that the Bible is crammed with blood sacrifice.



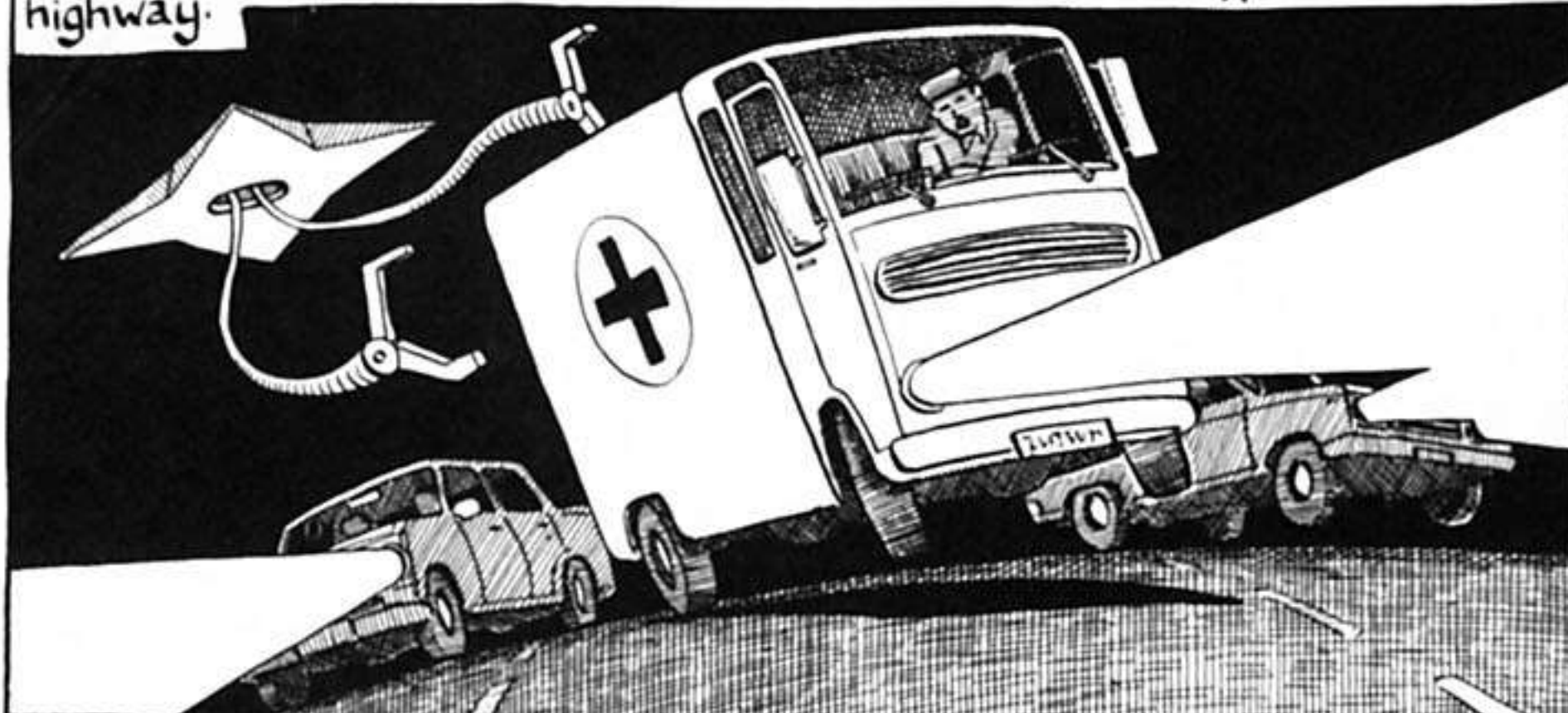
The gods have always demanded blood—and if belief in aliens constitutes a “new religion,” as many posit, then the UFO-linked cattle mutilations fit right in.



UFO abductees (who often awaken with pillow-staining bloody noses) routinely complain of aliens stealing sperm, ova, blood, and other “vital fluids” from their paralyzed and “mesmerized” bodies.



And a 1967 UFO incident (surely the most absurd on record were it not for multiple independent witnesses) involved a wacky sky-craft whose “extended pincers” tried to snatch a vehicle off an Ohio highway.

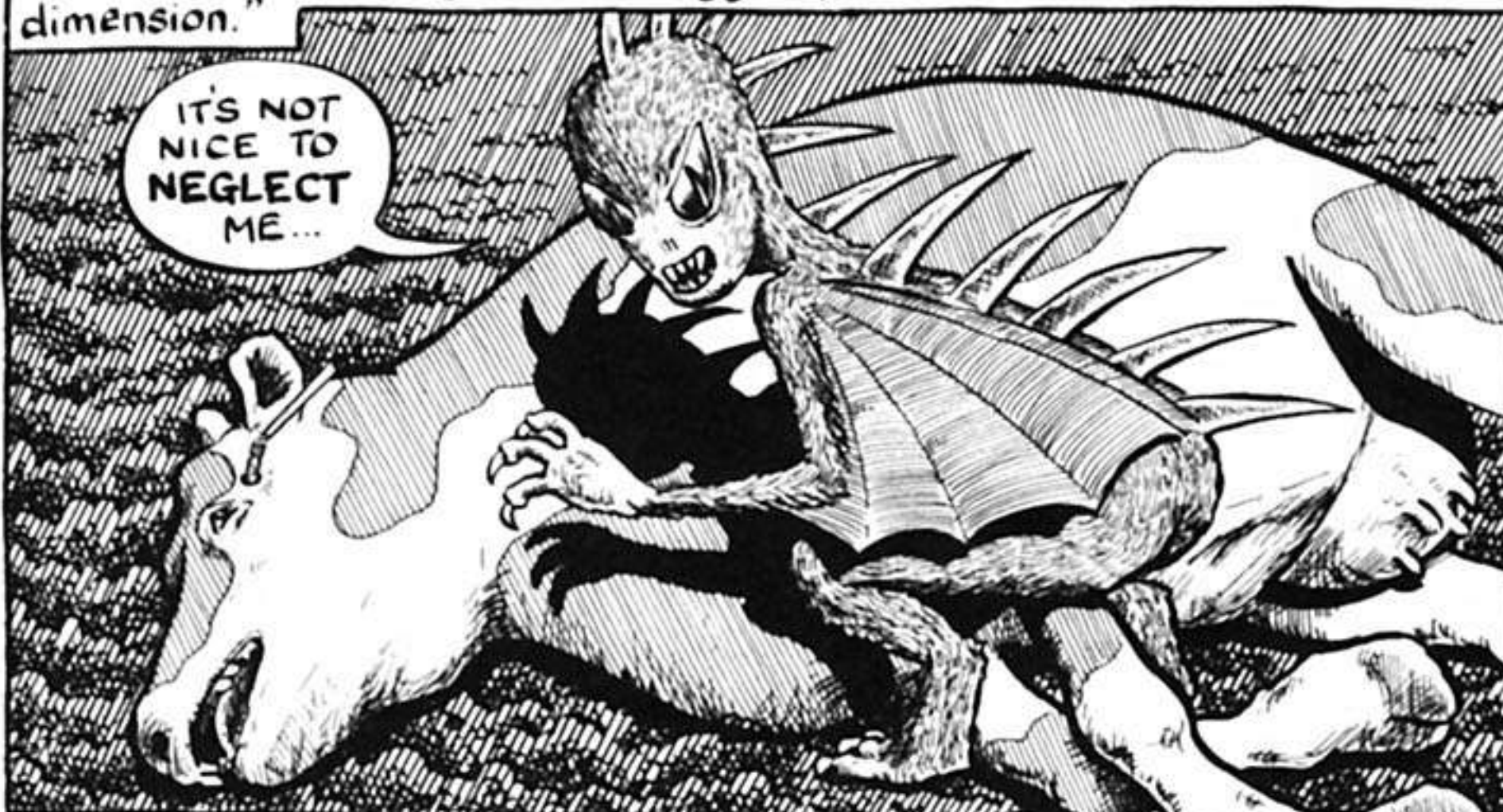


“Scared off by other motorists,” the UFO abandoned its prey—which was a Red Cross bloodmobile.

But why this creepy, constant fixation with blood? What’s the addiction? Researcher Salvador Freixado believes there is a “life-force” in blood—a mix of “subtle energies” which supernatural beings crave and perhaps even require.



In the absence of sacrifice, Freixado suggests, the “gods” may take matters into their own bloodstained hands, “extracting some vital substance, some drug, some energy required to materialize in our dimension.”



And if blood does contain some “magic ingredient,” is it released by fire?



Is this why “burnt offerings” were de rigueur in so many cultures?



Indeed, occult practitioners have always used blood to "open gateways to other realms," to conjure supernatural beings, to appease demonic forces--



--or simply to emulate their dark gods.

To Greek and Roman gods—who also "lived forever"—blood was "sacred wine" or the "nectar of life."



And we find the same beliefs in ancient Egypt, China, Sumeria, India, Africa, everywhere—gods and demons sustaining their immortality by preying on the mortal blood and life of humans.

Finally, during the earlier Puerto Rican mutilation epidemic of 1974-75, Freixado says, "Many other strange phenomena were occurring... the appearance of large unknown animals, mysterious explosions, apparitions of the Virgin, religious icons that wept or bled, bizarre disappearances..."



"All these things are more than merely related; they proceed from the same source."

Dracula decreed, "For the blood is the life," and in it he consumed something which rendered him immortal.



And his victims loved it.

In a curious reversal, the Christian rite of communion symbolically enables mortals to consume the blood of the god Jesus, which supposedly bestows "everlasting life" in the afterworld of heaven.



The same crimson feast with the tables turned.

WHAT THAT SOURCE IS, IS ANYBODY'S GUESS. SO HERE'S TO THE GOATSUCKER AND ALL THE OTHER BLOODY GODS—AND TO OUR OWN BIZARRE BELIEFS.





MESSING WITH MINDS ALREADY SHAKEN, MYSTERIOUSLY APPEARING WITH THE WORST TIMING POSSIBLE, AND EVER LURKING ON THE PERIPHERY OF THE PARANORMAL...HERE COME--

## THOSE SINISTER MEN IN BLACK



THE TYPICAL "MIB," AN ABSURD BUT CHILLING BOGEYMAN TIMESLIPPED FROM THE PARANOID '50S, IS MOST OFTEN ENCOUNTERED AFTER A UFO SIGHTING.

IT IS UNDERSTOOD YOU HAVE WITNESSED A FLYING SAUCER.

NOT WISE.



ALL MIBs ARE MYSTIFYING, BUT FEW ARE ANY WORSE THAN B-MOVIE HEAVIES DESIGNED TO INTIMIDATE WHILE SELDOM (IF EVER) CAUSING ACTUAL HARM.

SAY NOTHING ABOUT THE ANOMALOUS AERIAL OBJECT YOU NEVER SAW IF YOU WANT YOUR WIFE TO STAY AS PRETTY AS SHE IS.

HUH?

JUST KIDDING!



ATYPICAL BUT HARDLY UNKNOWN ARE THOSE TIMELOST MEN IN BLACK WHO WEAR CLOTHING RADICALLY OUT OF STYLE--OR NOT YET IN FASHION.

I'M A MEDIEVAL MIB...

...WHILE I TAUGHT DARTH VADER EVERYTHING HE KNOWS.



ALL MIBs INDUCE PARANOIA, BUT SOME PRY FOR INFORMATION (AS IF AGENTS CHASING UFOS), WHILE OTHERS TRY TO SUPPRESS THE SAME INFO (AS IF AGENTS FROM UFOS)...

YOU REALLY SAW IT? FLYING SAUCERS ARE REALLY REAL?!

YOU SAW NOTHING! FLYING SAUCERS DO NOT EXIST!



SOME MIBs KNOW FAR TOO MUCH ABOUT WITNESSES' PERSONAL AND PRIVATE LIVES.

KEEP SEEING MOTH-MAN AND YOUR JULY 9TH HOBOKEN CLAMBAKE WITH HERB AND WALLY WILL SUFFER NULLIFICATION.

HOW DID YOU...?



BACK IN THE '50S, MIBs SILENCED WITNESSES AND CONFISCATED EVIDENCE BY POSING AS AIR FORCE AND INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS.

YOUR FILM WILL BE DULY RETURNED... NOT.

(SUCH CASES WERE INVESTIGATED BY THE CIA, BUT THE FINDINGS REMAIN CLASSIFIED.)









IN THE PAST  
THEY WERE CALLED "KELPIES"  
OR "WATER HORSES" OR EVEN  
"DRAGONS" — BUT TODAY WE  
KNOW SCOTLAND'S "LONG-NECKEDIE  
BEASTIES" AS —



# THE MONSTERS of LOCH NESS



THE THIRD LARGEST LAKE IN EUROPE AND THE LARGEST IN THE U.K.,  
LOCH NESS IS SOME 23 MILES LONG, MORE THAN A MILE WIDE, AND  
800-1,000 FEET DEEP (MORE THAN THE HEIGHT OF THE EIFFEL TOWER)  
WITH A VOLUME VAST ENOUGH TO HOLD THE WORLD'S ENTIRE POPULATION.

DENSELY SUSPENDED  
PARTICLES OF PEAT  
MAKE VISIBILITY  
NEAR ZERO.

MYSTERIOUS WATERS INDEED, BUT COULD  
THEY ACTUALLY HIDE A MONSTER?

WHAT DO  
YOU THINK,  
LADS AND  
LASSIES?



WITNESSES AND PHOTOS  
SAY YES.

THE MODERN ERA OF NESSIE SIGHTINGS BEGAN IN 1933  
WITH THE OPENING OF A NEW ROAD ALONG THE LOCH —  
WHEREUPON MR. AND MRS. JOHN MACKAY REPORTED "AN  
ENORMOUS ANIMAL ROLLING AND PLUNGING" IN THE DARK WATERS.



TWO MONTHS LATER, MR. AND MRS. GEORGE  
SPICER SAW "A LARGE LONG-NECKED  
CREATURE ACTUALLY LURCHING ACROSS  
THE NEW ROAD."



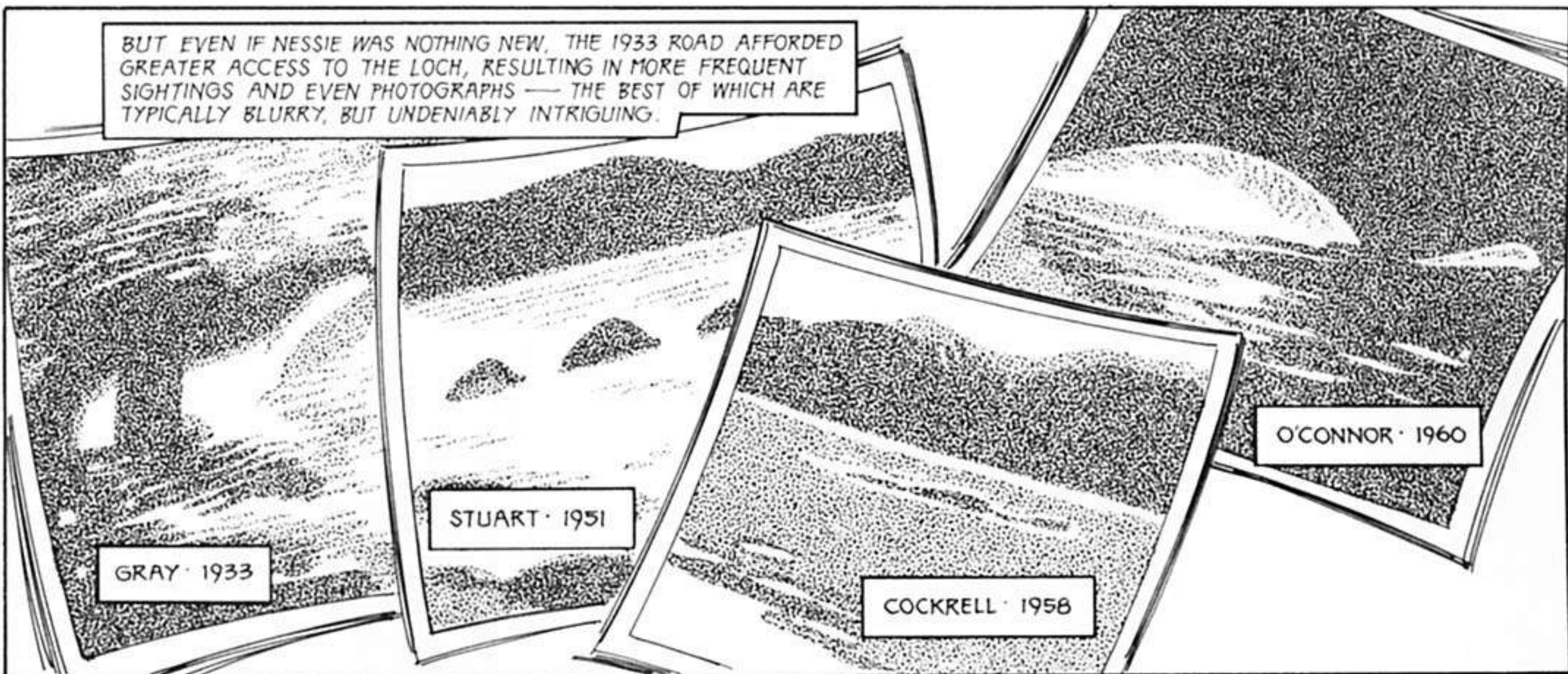
WHILE AUTHOR CONSTANCE WHYTE CALLS NESSIE  
"MORE THAN A LEGEND," THE CREATURE HAS  
APPARENTLY INSPIRED SEVERAL — INCLUDING  
THE 565 A.D. ACCOUNT OF ST. COLUMBA (WHO  
BROUGHT CHRISTIANITY TO SCOTLAND) DRIVING  
OFF A "CERTAIN WATER MONSTER" WITH THE  
"POWER OF PRAYER" —



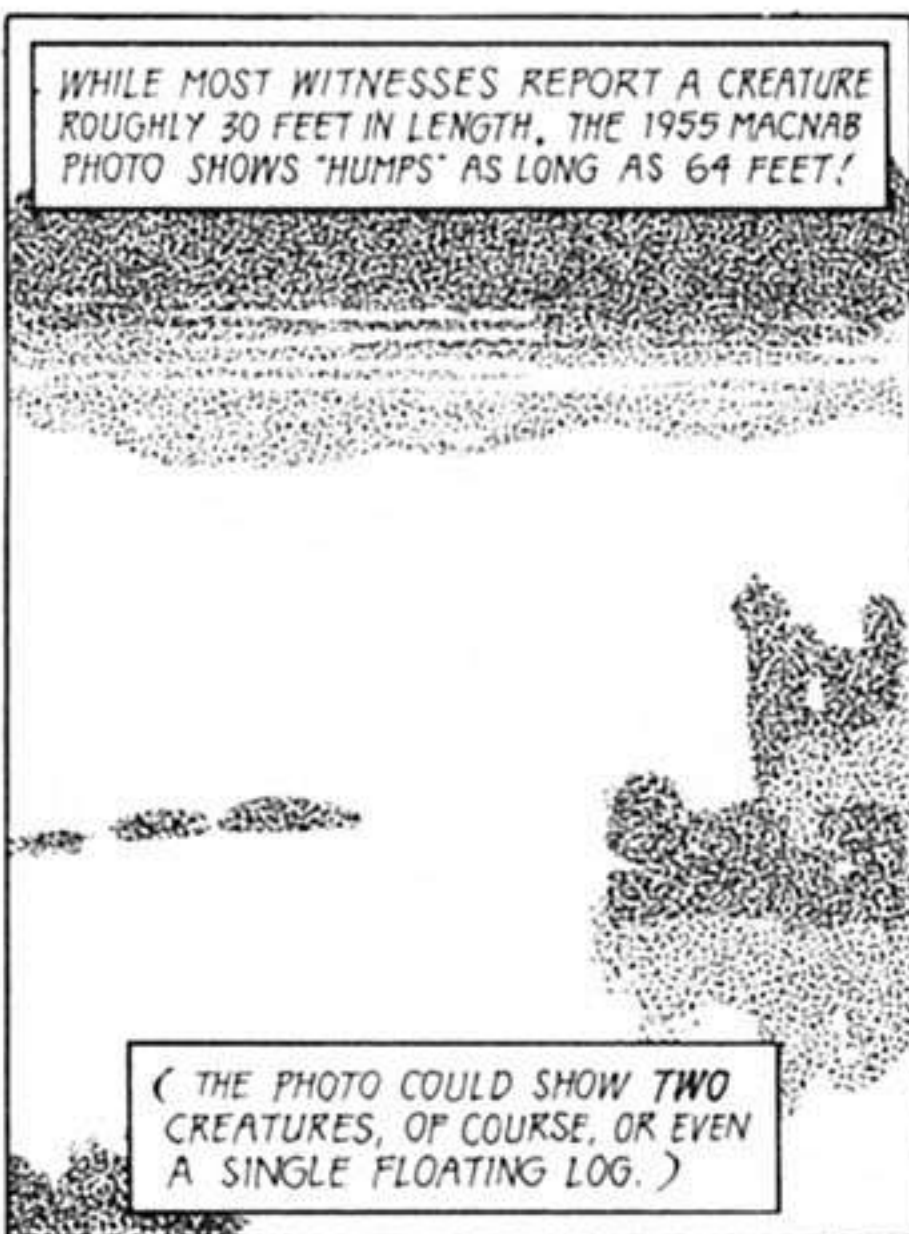
--AND A LATER MEDIEVAL STORY TELLING  
OF A "LONG-NECKED WATER DRAGON"  
TRAPPED AND SLAIN IN A CASTLE MOAT.



BUT EVEN IF NESSIE WAS NOTHING NEW, THE 1933 ROAD AFFORDED GREATER ACCESS TO THE LOCH, RESULTING IN MORE FREQUENT SIGHTINGS AND EVEN PHOTOGRAPHS — THE BEST OF WHICH ARE TYPICALLY BLURRY, BUT UNDENIABLY INTRIGUING.

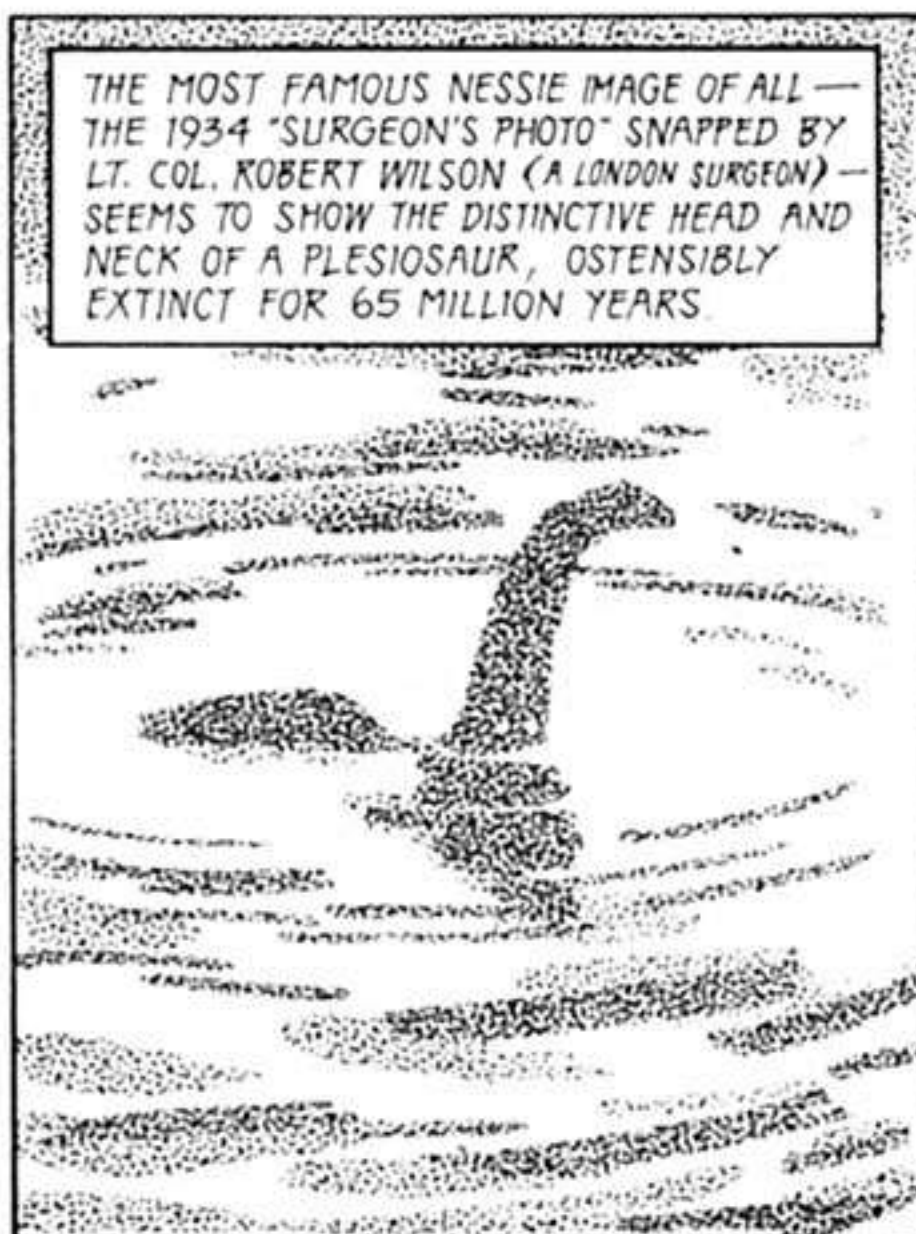


WHILE MOST WITNESSES REPORT A CREATURE ROUGHLY 30 FEET IN LENGTH, THE 1955 MACNAB PHOTO SHOWS "HUMPS" AS LONG AS 64 FEET!



( THE PHOTO COULD SHOW TWO CREATURES, OF COURSE, OR EVEN A SINGLE FLOATING LOG. )

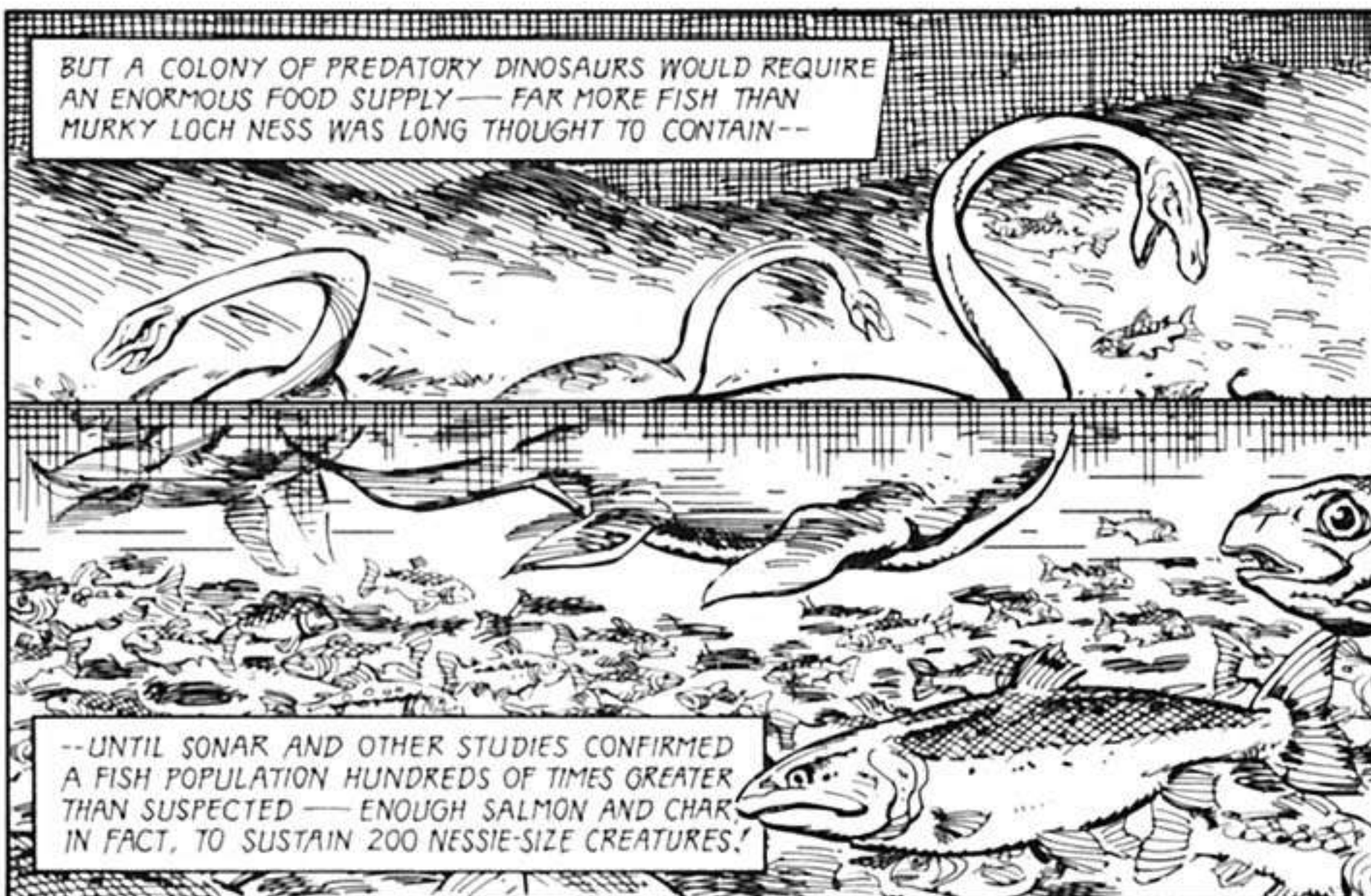
THE MOST FAMOUS NESSIE IMAGE OF ALL — THE 1934 "SURGEON'S PHOTO" SNAPPED BY LT. COL. ROBERT WILSON (A LONDON SURGEON) — SEEMS TO SHOW THE DISTINCTIVE HEAD AND NECK OF A PLESIOSAUR, OSTENSIBLY EXTINCT FOR 65 MILLION YEARS.



IF LOCH NESS DOES HOST A "SURVIVING DINOSAUR," IT IS UNLIKELY TO BE A SINGLE IMMORTAL SPECIMEN — BUT RATHER A GROUP OF NESSIES OF DIFFERENT GENDERS AND AGES, WHICH COULD ACCOUNT FOR THE REPORTED VARIATIONS IN SIZE, COLOR, AND SHADING.



BUT A COLONY OF PREDATORY DINOSAURS WOULD REQUIRE AN ENORMOUS FOOD SUPPLY — FAR MORE FISH THAN MURKY LOCH NESS WAS LONG THOUGHT TO CONTAIN —



--UNTIL SONAR AND OTHER STUDIES CONFIRMED A FISH POPULATION HUNDREDS OF TIMES GREATER THAN SUSPECTED — ENOUGH SALMON AND CHAR, IN FACT, TO SUSTAIN 200 NESSIE-SIZE CREATURES!

YET SIMILAR "MONSTERS" HAVE LONG BEEN SEEN IN OTHER LOCHS TOO SMALL OR OTHERWISE INCAPABLE OF SUPPORTING EVEN A SINGLE PLESIOSAUR.





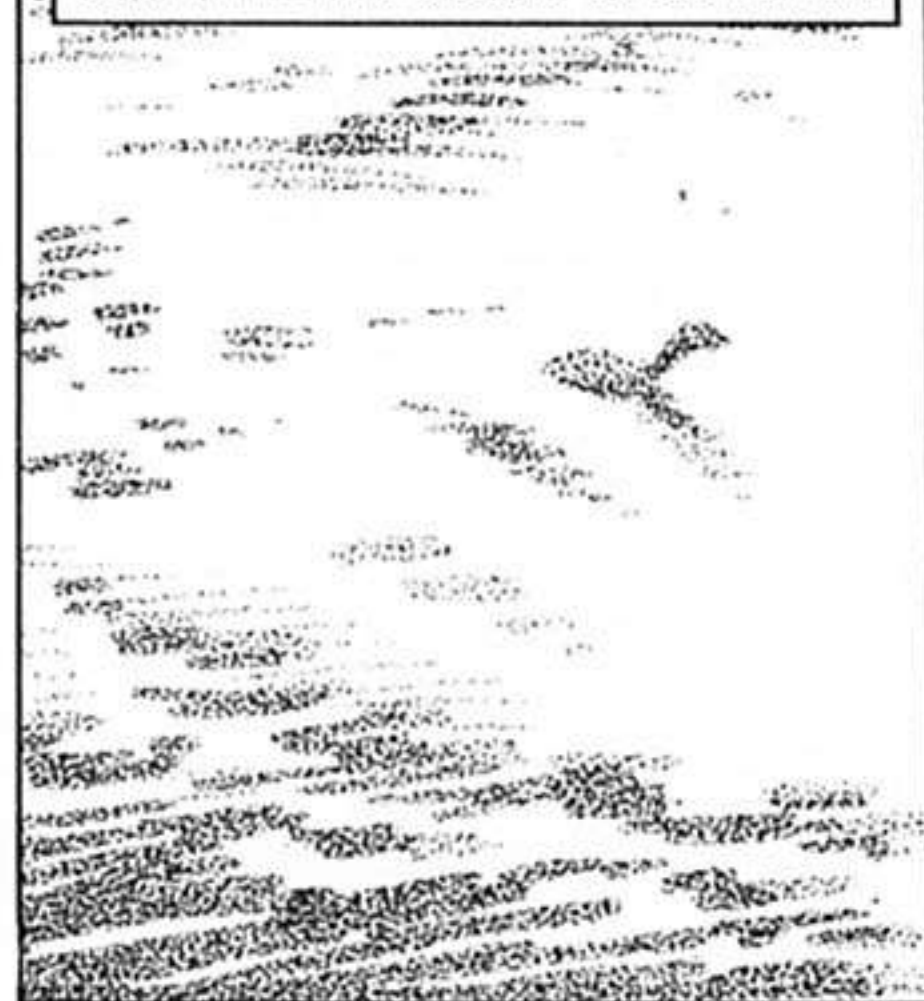
A POSSIBLE ANSWER JUST DISCOVERED IN EARLY 1997: UNDERWATER TUNNELS LINKING LOCH NESS WITH LOCH MORAR AND OTHER, EVEN SMALLER MONSTER-INFESTED LOCHS!



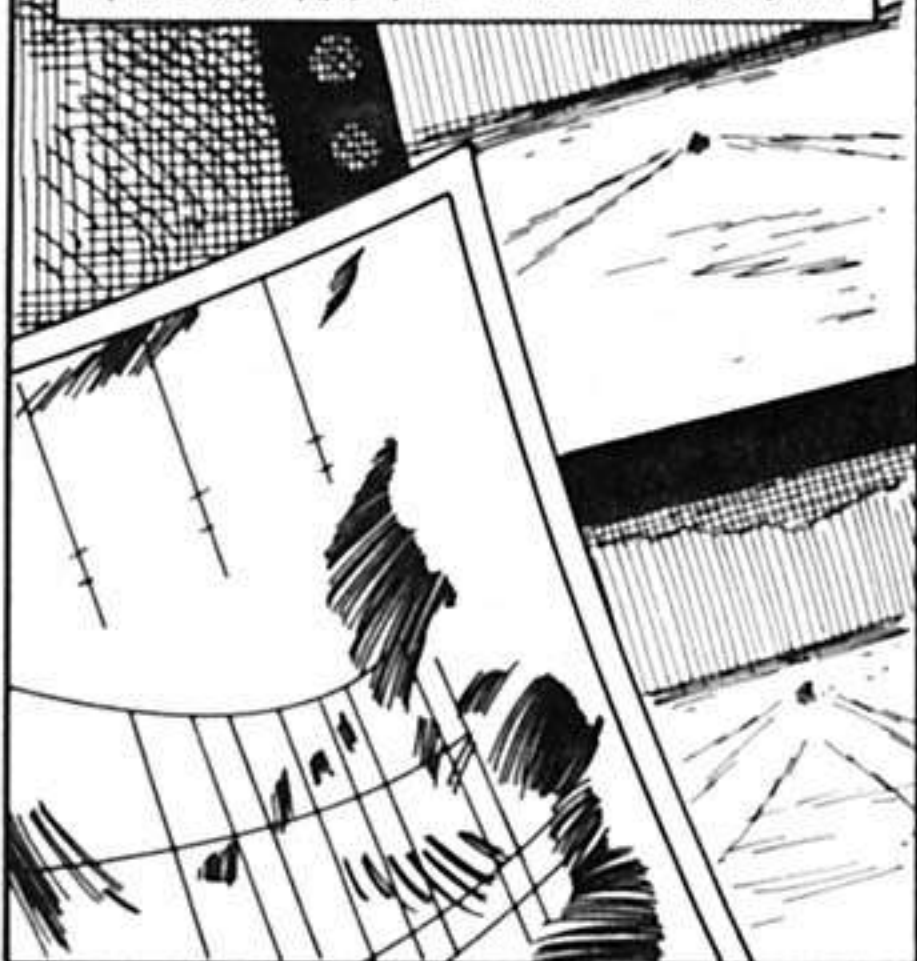
IN OTHER RECENT NEWS, THE "SURGEON'S PHOTO" WAS BRANDED A HOAX IN A "DEATHBED CONFESSION" — NOT BY THE PHOTOGRAPHER, BUT BY A "MODEL-MAKER" CLAIMING THE USE OF MATERIALS NOT YET INVENTED IN 1934.



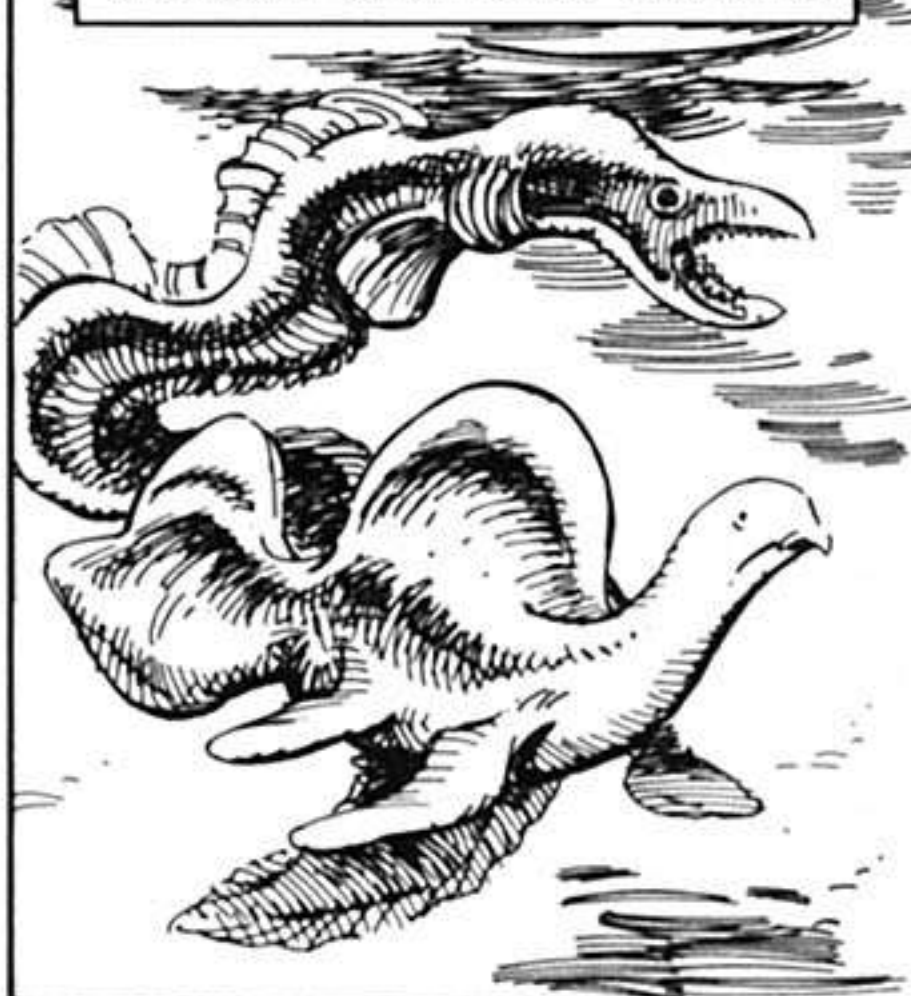
FURTHER SUGGESTING A HOAXED HOAX IS THE FACT THAT A STATIC MODEL COULD HARDLY ACCOUNT FOR THE CHANGES SEEN IN THE RARE SECOND SURGEON'S PHOTO.



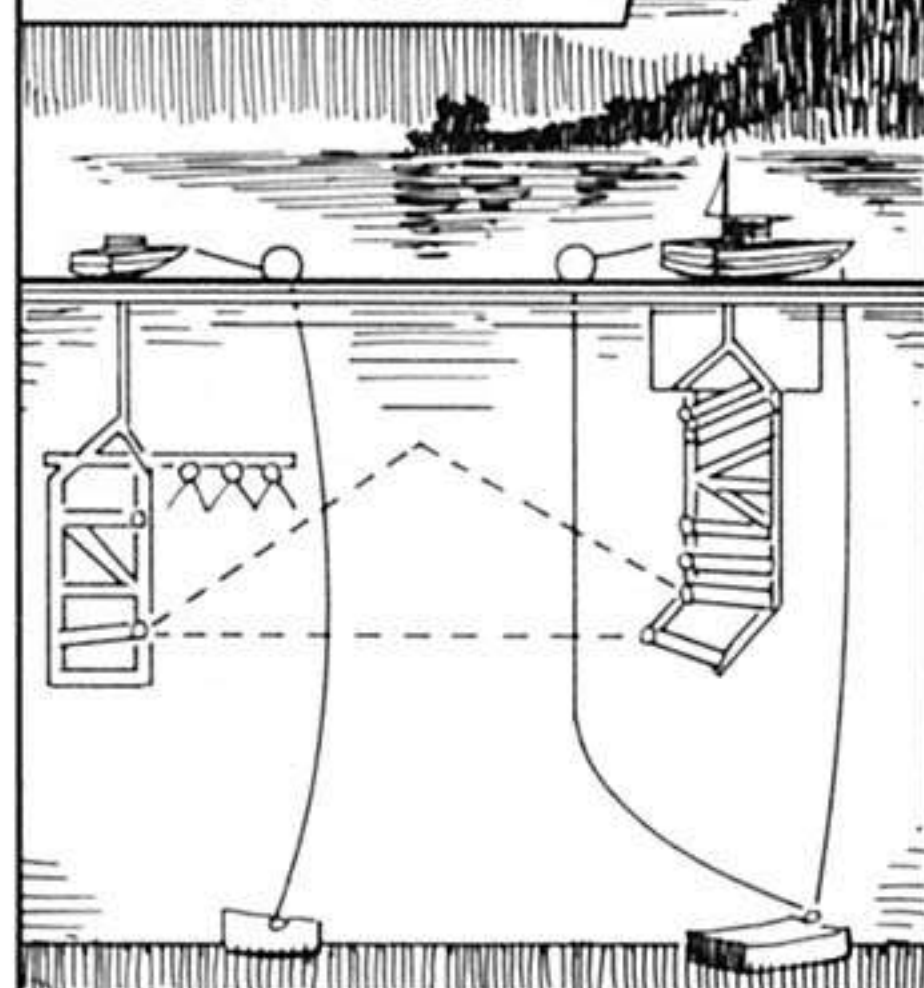
DEFINITELY NOT HOAXED: THE 1960 DINSDALE FILM — AND SONAR SCANS — SHOWING SOMETHING "LARGE, ALIVE, AND MOVING" ON AND BELOW THE LOCH'S SURFACE. BUT ARE THEY TRULY DINOSAURS?



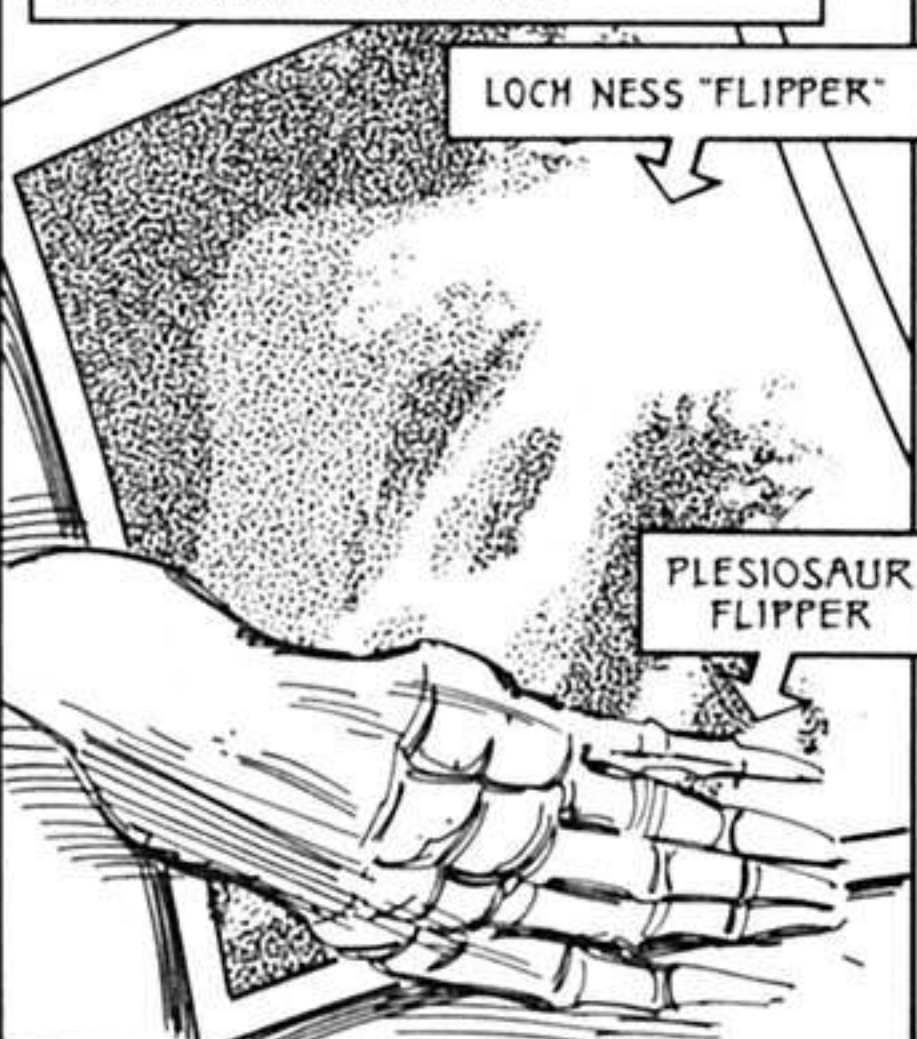
OTHER NESSIE THEORIES ARE LARGELY CRYPTOZOOLOGICAL, RANGING FROM UNKNOWN "GIANT SALAMANDERS" TO UNKNOWN "GIANT ORMS" OR WORMS.



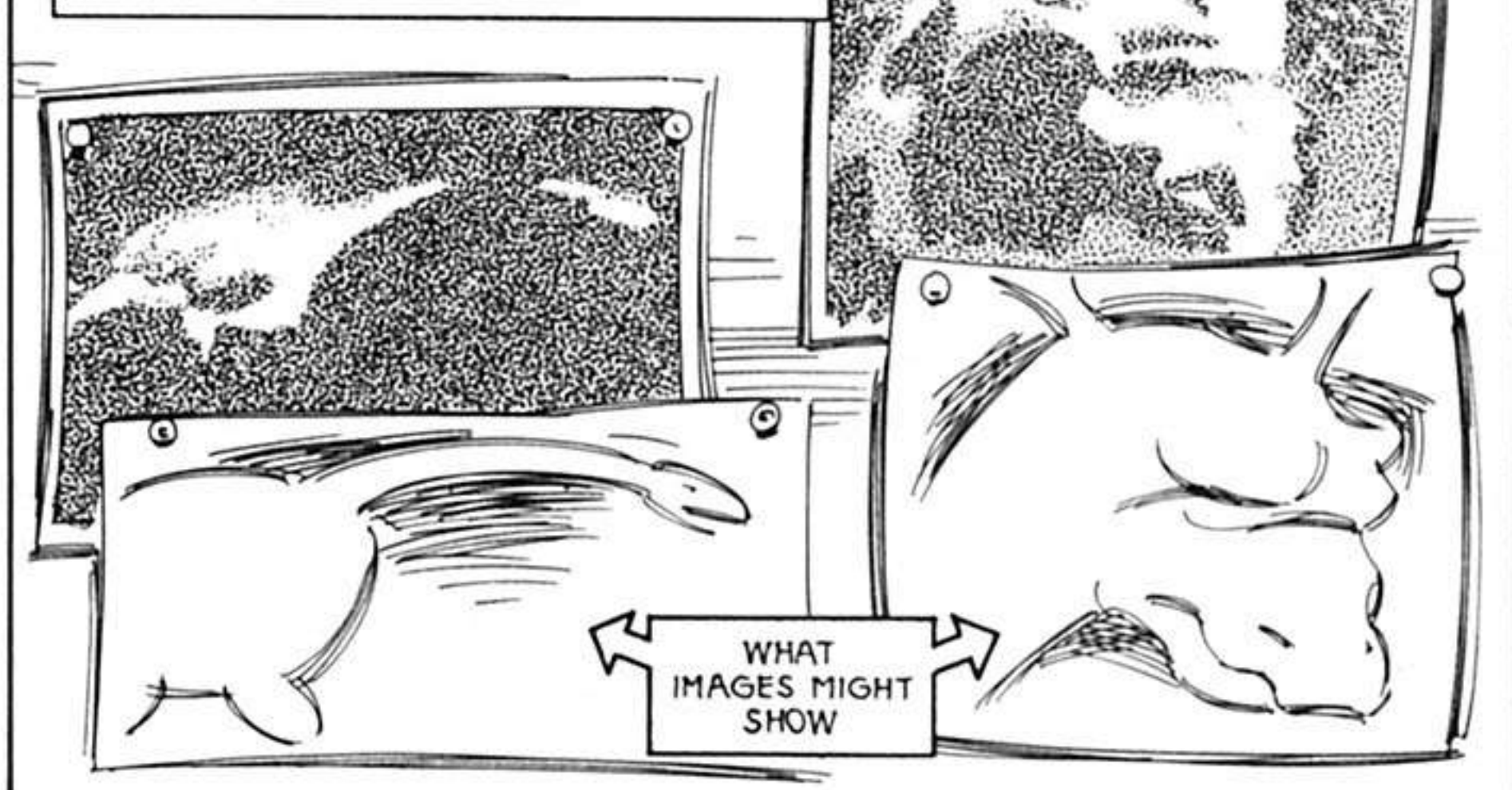
BUT JUST AS THE FOCUS WAS SHIFTING AWAY FROM PLESIOSAURS, DR. ROBERT RINES RIGGED AN UNDERWATER STROBE-CAMERA TO BE TRIGGERED ONLY BY SONAR RETURNS FROM "LARGE MOVING OBJECTS" —



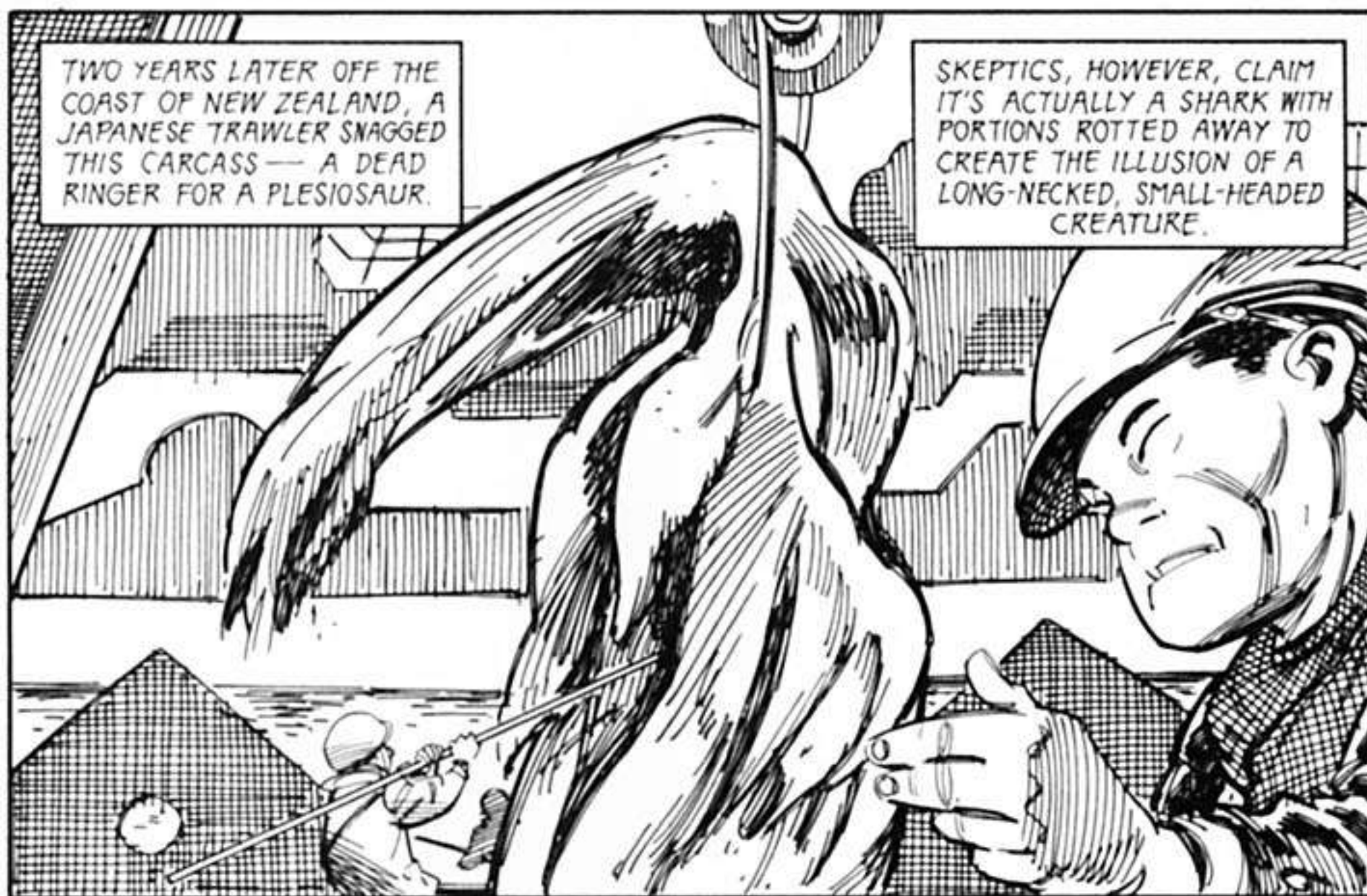
-- AND, IN 1972, CAPTURED A SHOT OF WHAT LOOKS LIKE A FLIPPER MOVING RIGHT PAST THE CAMERA.



MORE EMPHATICALLY RETURNING THE SPOTLIGHT TO PLESIOSAURS WERE RINES' 1975 "GARGOYLE" AND "FULL BODY" PHOTOS — BLURRIER BUT EVEN MORE STUNNING THAN THE "FLIPPER" SHOT.







TWO YEARS LATER OFF THE COAST OF NEW ZEALAND, A JAPANESE TRAWLER SNAGGED THIS CARCASS — A DEAD RINGER FOR A PLESIOSAUR.

SKEPTICS, HOWEVER, CLAIM IT'S ACTUALLY A SHARK WITH PORTIONS ROTTED AWAY TO CREATE THE ILLUSION OF A LONG-NECKED, SMALL-HEADED CREATURE.



WE'LL NEVER KNOW FOR SURE — SINCE THE FANTASTIC CARCASS WAS ALMOST IMMEDIATELY DUMPED BACK IN THE OCEAN WHEN THE FREAKED-OUT CREW COMPLAINED OF ITS UNBEARABLE STENCH AND WEIRDNESS.



THIS REPEATED NEAR-MISS ELUSIVENESS LED RESEARCHER F.W. HOLIDAY TO SUSPECT THAT WATER CREATURES MIGHT BE SUPERNATURAL ENTITIES.

INDEED, WITCHES HAVE TRIED TO SUMMON THE BEAST AS IF CONJURING A DEMON — WHILE OTHERS HAVE SOUGHT TO "EXORCISE" THE LOCH OF THE SERPENT.



OTHERS EXPLAIN NESSIE'S FRUSTRATING PEEKABOO REALITY BY CLAIMING THE CREATURE EXISTS ONLY AS A TOURISM SCAM — EVEN THOUGH MOST EARLY WITNESSES WERE TOURISTS THEMSELVES, NOT LOCAL INNKEEPERS.



AND, LIKE NESSIE, OTHER LAKE MONSTER "TOURIST SCAMS" SOMEHOW DATE BACK TO ANCIENT LEGENDS: CANADA'S CHAMP, OGOOGO, AND CADBOROSAURUS, JAPAN'S ISSIE, AND IRELAND'S MANY "PEISTES."



APPARENTLY DWELLING IN SOME TWILIGHT REALM BETWEEN "NORMAL" CRYPTOZOOLOGY AND PARANORMAL WEIRDNESS, THESE CREATURES MAY NOT EXIST AT ALL, BUT AS A LOCH NESS LOCAL ONCE OBSERVED —

IF THAT WASNIE THE MONSTER, THEN THERE'S SOMETHIN' MIGHTY QUEER IN THE LOCH!







THE GOBLIN APPROACHED  
SOUNDLESSLY WITH HANDS  
HELD HIGH, EITHER IN  
MENACE OR SURRENDER.



BILLY RAY TAYLOR AND ELMER SUTTON  
RESPONDED WITH AUTOMATIC XENOPHOBIA.



APPARENTLY HIT,  
THE FREAKISH CREATURE  
FLIPPED BACKWARD--



--AND SCURRIED  
OFF ON ALL  
FOURS AS  
THE TWO MEN  
RETRACTED  
INTO THE  
FARMHOUSE.



SHORTLY THEREAFTER, WHEN  
THE SAME CREATURE (OR  
ANOTHER JUST LIKE IT)  
APPEARED AT A WINDOW--



--A SHOTGUN BLAST  
THROUGH THE SCREEN  
BLEW IT BACK INTO THE  
NIGHT.

ALMOST IMMEDIATELY, THERE WAS A  
SOUND FROM ABOVE.



AND WHEN THE MEN  
RUSHED BACK OUT-  
SIDE, A TALONED  
HAND REACHED  
DOWN-- AS IF TO  
FEEL BILLY RAY  
TAYLOR'S HAIR.



BILLY RAY AND ELMER SWIFTLY  
BLASTED THE THING RIGHT OFF  
THE ROOF--



--AND LATER  
SWORE THAT  
IT SLOWLY  
FLOATED  
TO A FENCE  
FORTY FEET  
AWAY.





AND ONLY WHEN THE GOBLIN WAS SHOT OFF THE FENCE DID IT FINALLY FLEE.



ANOTHER CREATURE SPOTTED ON THE LIMB OF A MAPLE TREE, WAS ALSO SUBJECTED TO THE PRIME DIRECTIVE OF "SHOOT FIRST, ASK QUESTIONS LATER."



THEN, EVEN AS ONE GOBLIN SCURRIED FROM THE TREE, ANOTHER CAME AROUND A CORNER OF THE HOUSE — AGAIN REACHING FOR THE DARK SKY.



THIS ONE WAS HIT POINT-BLANK, WHICH MADE THE SOUND OF "BULLETS ON A METAL BUCKET."



AND WHEN YET ANOTHER (OR THE FIRST) GOBLIN WAS SHOT OFF A BARREL, BILLY RAY TAYLOR HEARD HIS .22 RIFLE BULLET RICOCHET RIGHT OFF ITS HARD HIDE.



"THE LITTLE MAN FLOATED TO THE GROUND," TAYLOR SAID, "AND ROLLED UP LIKE A BALL." HE ALSO CLAIMED THE GOBLINS GLOWED BRIGHTER WHENEVER THEY WERE SHOT OR SHOUTED AT.



HAVING SEEN MORE THAN ENOUGH, THE TWO MEN RETREATED INSIDE, BOLTING THE DOORS FOR WHAT WOULD PROVE TO BE A NERVE-WRACKING SIEGE.



EVEN AS THE OCCASIONAL GLOWING GOBLIN ROAMED AROUND OUT IN THE DARK, 50-YEAR-OLD GLENNIE LANKFORD COUNSELED AN END TO THE SHOOTING.



THEY HAVEN'T TRIED TO HURT US — SO MAYBE THEY'RE ONLY BEING FRIENDLY.



BUT AS THE SURREAL SIEGE WORE ON, THE CHILDREN BECAME INCREASINGLY HYSTERICAL.



THE BREAKING POINT CAME AT 11 PM, WHEN THE HOUSEFUL OF HUMANS MADE A DESPERATE DASH FOR THEIR CARS AND "HIGH-TAILED IT" TO THE HOPKINSVILLE POLICE STATION SEVEN MILES AWAY.



THERE, A MEDICALLY-TRAINED INVESTIGATOR DETERMINED THAT BILLY RAY TAYLOR'S PULSE RATE WAS:

TWICE NORMAL!



CHIEF OF POLICE RUSSELL GREENWELL LATER STATED, "THESE WERE NOT THE SORT OF PEOPLE WHO NORMALLY RAN TO THE POLICE... SOMETHING FRIGHTENED THEM, SOMETHING BEYOND THEIR COMPREHENSION."



WHEN GREENWELL AND FIVE OTHER POLICE OFFICERS ACCOMPANIED THE ELEVEN WITNESSES ON THE DARK ROAD BACK TO THE FARM, TWO STREAKS OF LIGHT SHOT OVERHEAD WITH "THE SOUND OF ARTILLERY FIRE."



ALTHOUGH BULLET HOLES AND SPENT CASINGS WERE ABUNDANT AT THE SITE, THE POLICE FOUND NO EVIDENCE OF A "FLYING SAUCER."



NOR WERE SHOTGUN-SPLATTED GOBLINS STREWN ALL OVER THE PROPERTY.

THEY DID FIND A STRANGELY GLOWING PATCH OF GROUND, HOWEVER, RIGHT WHERE ONE OF THE GOBLINS HAD ALLEGEDLY TUMBLED.

THAT'S MIGHTY STRANGE.



CHIEF GREENWELL LATER STATED: "IN AND AROUND THE WHOLE AREA, THERE WAS A WEIRD FEELING. EVERYONE HAD IT... THESE WERE BRAVE MEN I'VE BEEN IN DANGEROUS SITUATIONS WITH. THEY FELT IT TOO."



(RESEARCHER JENNY RANDLES CALLS THIS "THE OZ FACTOR"—REPEATEDLY ASSOCIATED WITH UFO AND PARANORMAL EVENTS.)



HAMPERED BY DARKNESS  
THE POLICE LEFT AT  
2 AM.

WE'LL BE BACK  
TO INVESTIGATE  
SOME MORE  
TOMORROW.

BUT THE NIGHT  
WAS STILL YOUNG...

AT 2:30, BEFORE GLENNIE LANKFORD  
COULD FALL ASLEEP, A PERSISTENT  
GLOW ALERTED HER TO A GOBLIN OUTSIDE  
HER BEDROOM. SHE CALLED OUT SOFTLY  
TO THE OTHERS--

ELMER! BILLY RAY!  
HERE'S ONE AT MY  
WINDOW!

-- AND AGAIN IMPOLORED FOR PEACE  
WHEN ELMER SUTTON RUSHED IN  
WITH HIS SHOTGUN.

PLEASE, ELMER--  
DON'T SHOOT!

BUT HE DID--

# BAOUM

-- AND THE NIGHTMARISH  
SIEGE RESUMED THROUGHOUT  
THE REMAINDER OF THE NIGHT.

THE LAST CREATURE WAS  
SEEN AT 4:45 AM,  
AND BY SUNRISE--

I DO BELIEVE  
THEY'RE FINALLY  
GONE!

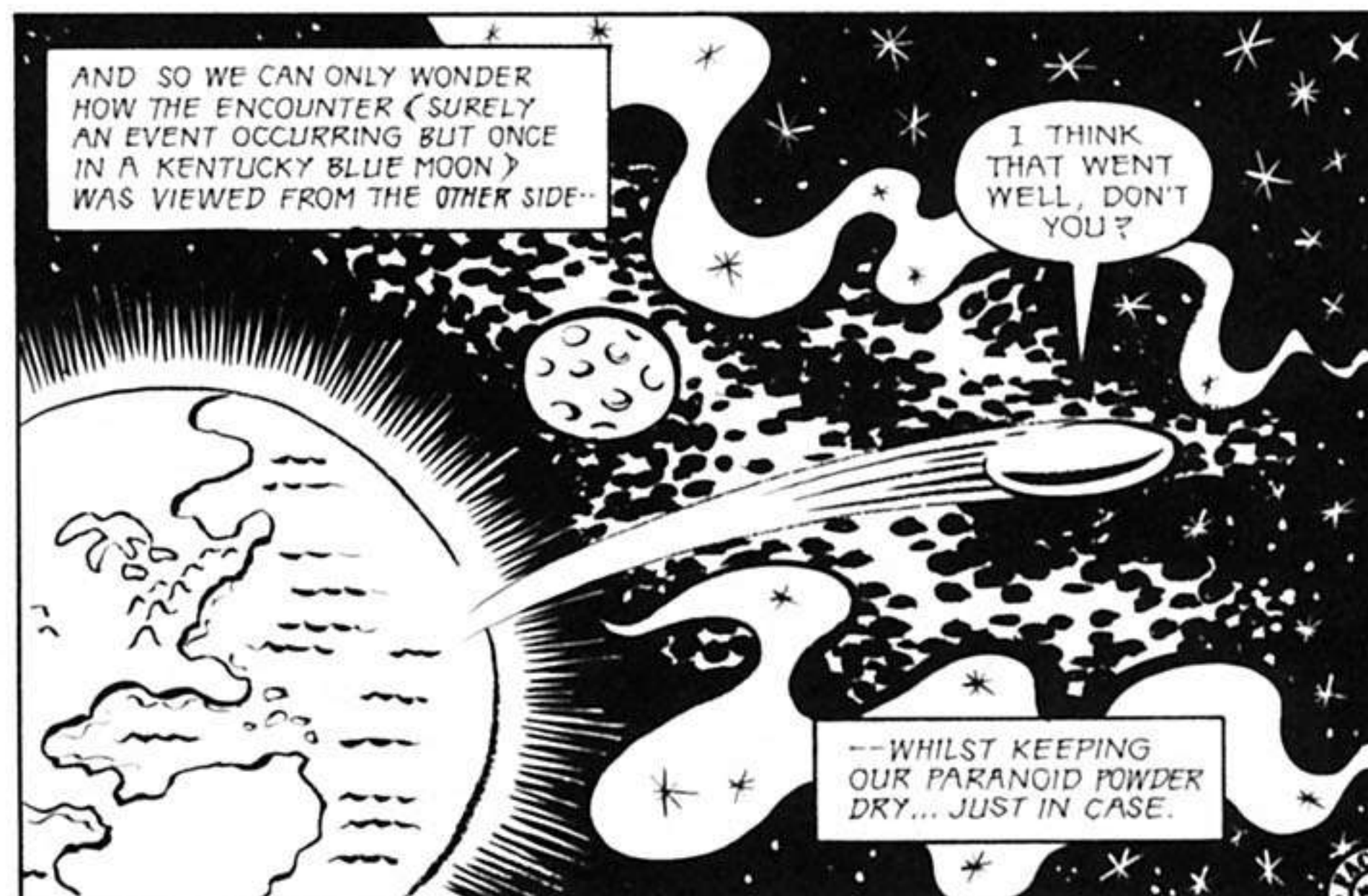
LATER THAT DAY, ANDREW "BUD" LEDWITH,  
ENGINEER/ANNOUNCER AT RADIO STATION  
WHOP, SENSED A WHOPPER OF A STORY  
OUT ON THE SUTTON FARM.

I'M GOING  
OUT TO TALK  
TO THESE  
FOLKS.

INTERVIEWING THE SEVEN ADULT WITNESSES IN  
THREE ISOLATED GROUPS, LEDWITH RECEIVED AND  
RENDERED A REMARKABLE CONSISTENCY OF DESCRIPTION--

-- ALTHOUGH THE WOMENFOLK DID FAVOR  
A THICKER WAIST, AND BILLY RAY TAYLOR  
INSISTED ON THE ADDITION OF ANTENNAE.







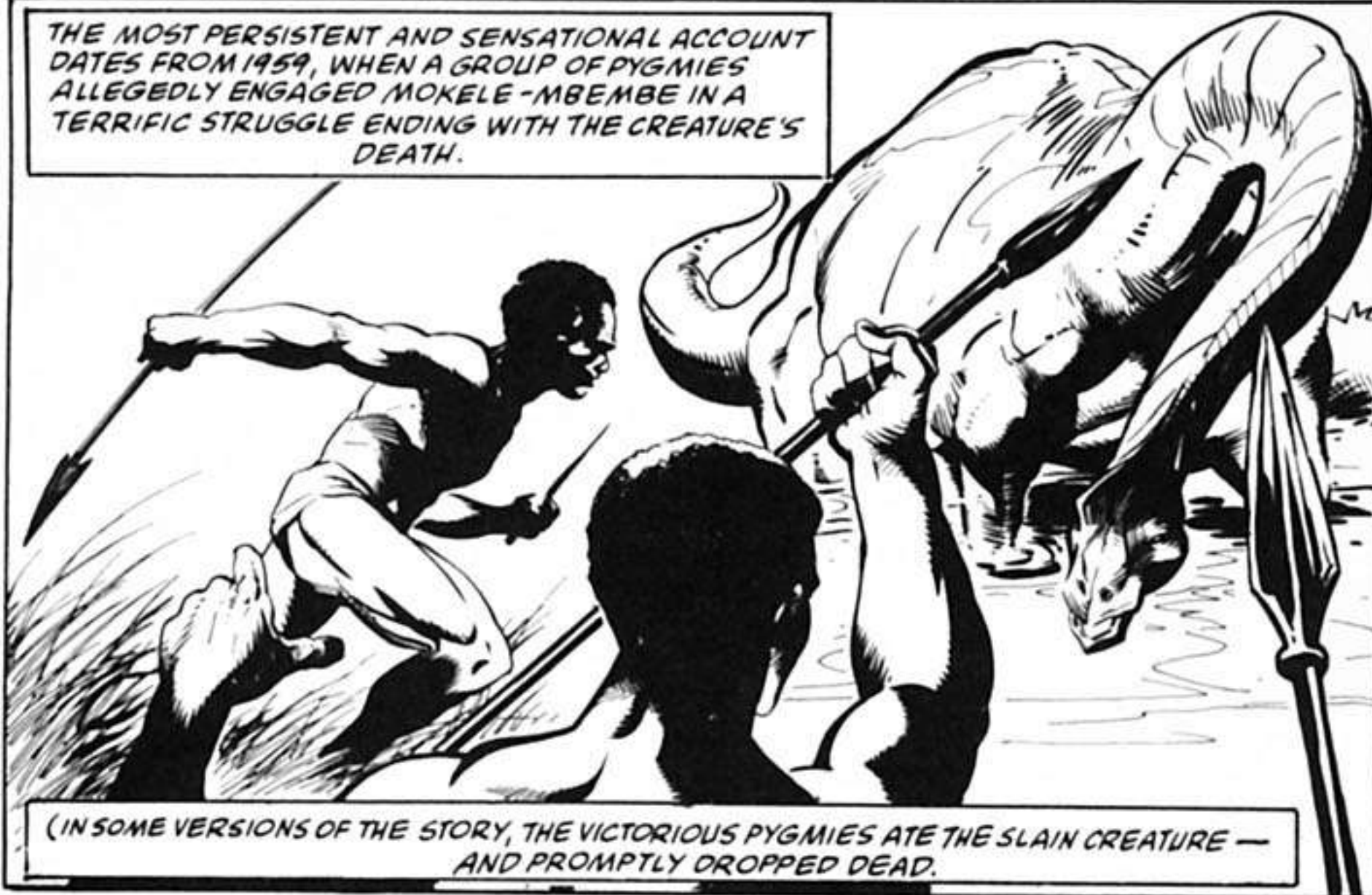
SHERLOCK HOLMES CREATOR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE ALSO WROTE "THE LOST WORLD," A STORY ABOUT A REMOTE JUNGLE PLATEAU SWARMING WITH PREHISTORIC SURVIVORS.

LET'S EXPLORE A REAL-LIFE "LOST WORLD" DEEP IN THE AFRICAN CONGO, A MISTY REALM OF DENSE SWAMPS, JUNGLES, AND, JUST MAYBE, A--

# DINOSAUR ALIVE



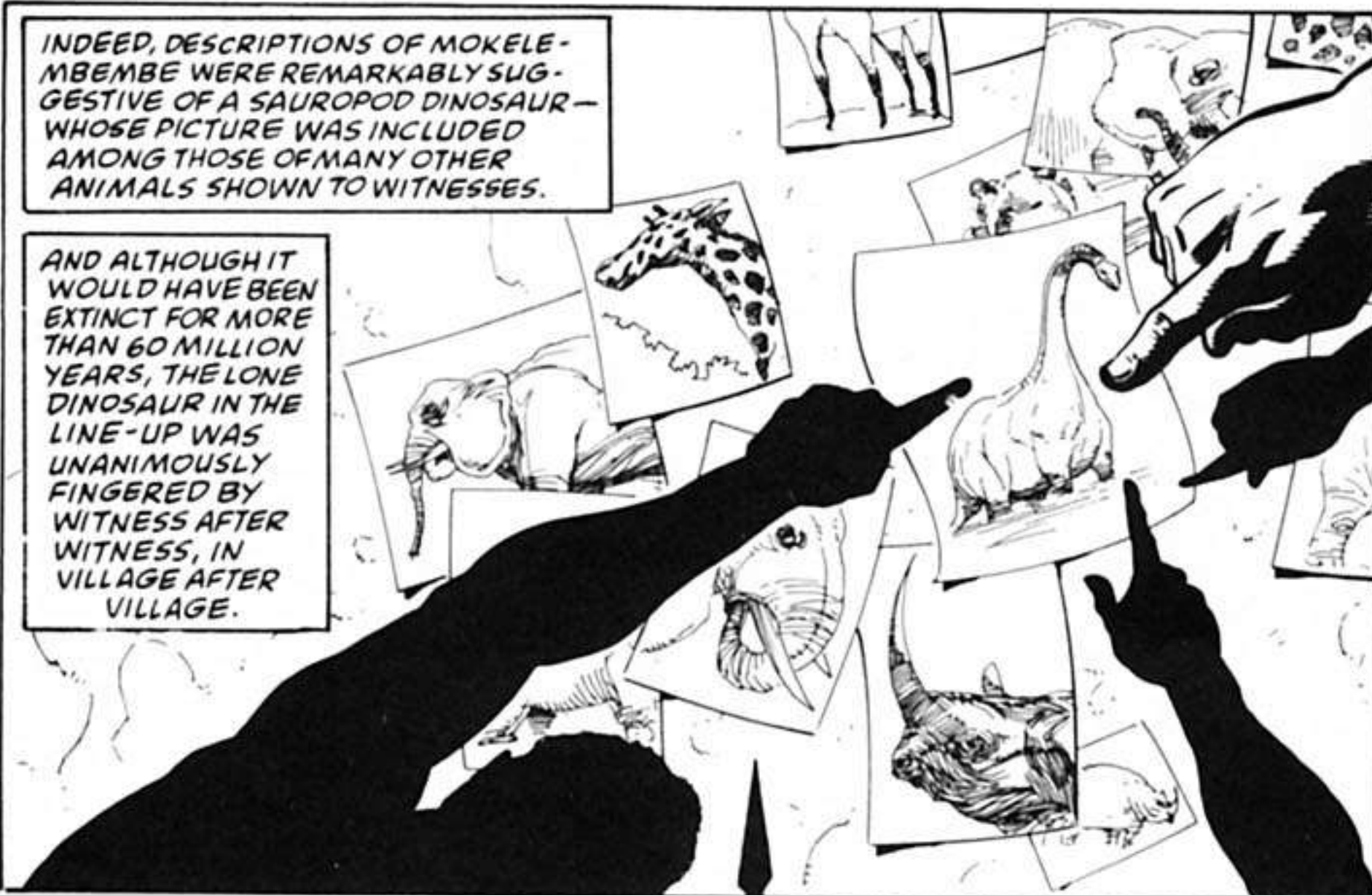
THE MOST PERSISTENT AND SENSATIONAL ACCOUNT DATES FROM 1959, WHEN A GROUP OF PYGMIES ALLEGEDLY ENGAGED MOKELE-MBEMBE IN A TERRIFIC STRUGGLE ENDING WITH THE CREATURE'S DEATH.



(IN SOME VERSIONS OF THE STORY, THE VICTORIOUS PYGMIES ATE THE SLAIN CREATURE — AND PROMPTLY DROPPED DEAD.)

INDEED, DESCRIPTIONS OF MOKELE-MBEMBE WERE REMARKABLY SUGGESTIVE OF A SAUROPOD DINOSAUR — WHOSE PICTURE WAS INCLUDED AMONG THOSE OF MANY OTHER ANIMALS SHOWN TO WITNESSES.

AND ALTHOUGH IT WOULD HAVE BEEN EXTINCT FOR MORE THAN 60 MILLION YEARS, THE LONE DINOSAUR IN THE LINE-UP WAS UNANIMOUSLY FINGERED BY WITNESS AFTER WITNESS, IN VILLAGE AFTER VILLAGE.



STORIES OF MOKELE-MBEMBE, A DINOSAUR-LIKE CREATURE SUPPOSEDLY HAUNTING THE CONGO SWAMPS, HAVE BEEN TOLD FOR AT LEAST 200 YEARS — ACCEPTED BY LOCAL AFRICANS, REJECTED BY THE REST OF THE WORLD.



DR. ROY P. MACKAL, UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO BIOLOGIST AND FAMED "HUNTER" OF THE LOCHNESS MONSTER, DECIDED:

SINCE THE CONGO'S CLIMATE HAS BEEN STABLE FOR MORE THAN 70 MILLION YEARS, A SMALL GROUP OF SURVIVING DINOSAURS IS NOT IMPOSSIBLE.



WHEN WITNESSES DESCRIBED MOKELE-MBEMBE AS ONLY 30-40 FEET, HOWEVER — ROUGHLY HALF THE LENGTH OF A FOSSILIZED BRONTOSAURUS — MACKAL BEGAN TALKING ABOUT A "PYGMY SAUROPOD."





ALSO INTRIGUING ARE ASHANTI GOLD-WEIGHTS, ANCIENT IN HUMAN TERMS, AND ALL BUT ONE MODELED ON KNOWN ANIMALS — MONKEYS, LIONS, AND SO ON, THE SOLE EXCEPTION LOOKING EXACTLY LIKE A BABY SAUROPOD.



COMBINING A REPTILIAN BODY WITH BIRD-LIKE FEET IN DISTINCTLY DINOSAURIAN FASHION, THE *SIRRUSH* (WHICH APPEARS ON THE RUINS OF A BABYLONIAN STRUCTURE CALLED "THE ISHTAR GATE" MAY HAVE BEEN MODELED, SOME ARGUE, ON DESCRIPTIONS OF MOKELE-MBEMBE.



NOTING A STORY FROM THE BIBLICAL APOCHRYPHA — IN WHICH DANIEL STRANGLES A "DRAGON" IN THE BABYLONIAN TEMPLE OF BEL — OTHER RESEARCHERS WONDER IF SURVIVING DINOSAURS MIGHT EXPLAIN WHY DRAGONS APPEAR IN SO MANY CULTURE'S MYTHOLOGIES.

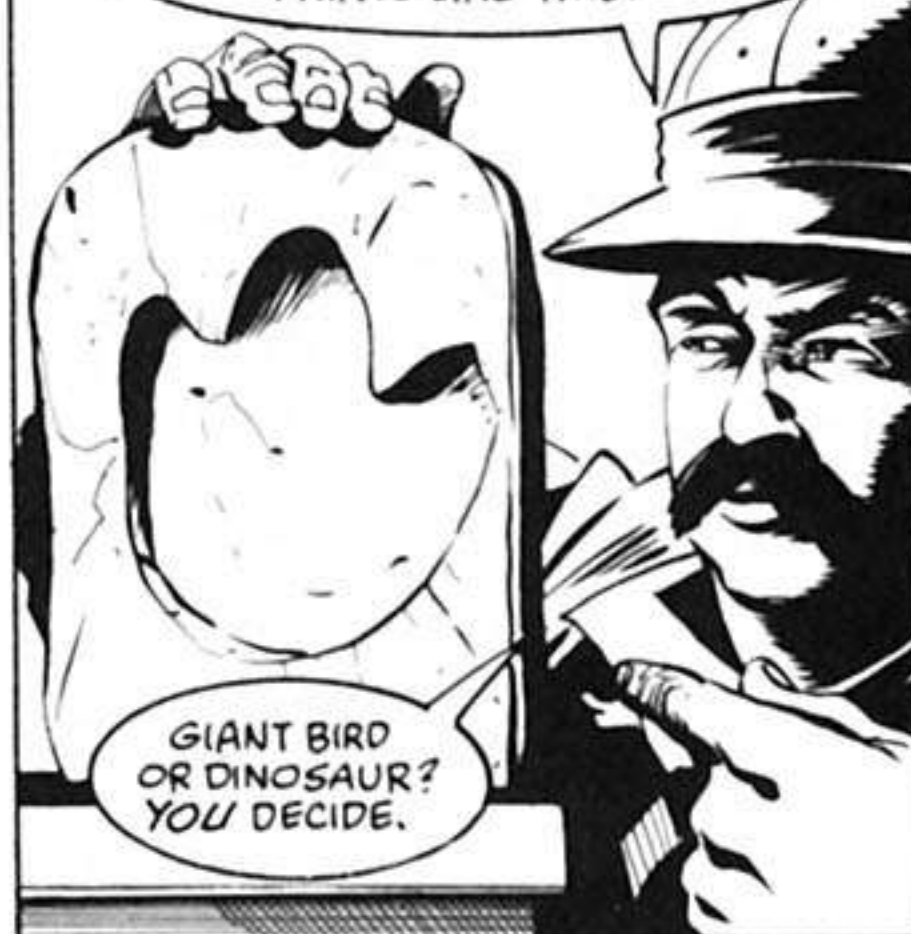


SEEKING ANSWERS, ROY MACKAL LED A 1980 AND A 1981 EXPEDITION TO THE CONGO'S LIKOUALA SWAMPLANDS, ONE OF THE LEAST EXPLORED REGIONS ON EARTH.



ALTHOUGH MACKAL NEVER REACHED LAKE TELE, SITE OF MOST OF THE REPORTED MOKELE-MBEMBE ENCOUNTERS, ANOTHER GROUP, THE REGUSTERS EXPEDITION, DID. THEY CLAIMED CLOSE SIGHTINGS OF A SAUROPOD DINOSAUR — BUT BROUGHT BACK NO PROOF.

INDEED, PROOF POSITIVE HAS ELUDED EVERY EXPEDITION — INCLUDING MACKAL AND OTHERS LIKE NUGENT, AGAGNA, AND GIBBONS — ALTHOUGH TRAILS AND CRUSHED VEGETATION HAVE BEEN FOUND NEAR PROVOCATIVE FOOT-PRINTS LIKE THIS.



GIANT BIRD OR DINOSAUR? YOU DECIDE.

AS FOR ROY MACKAL, HE CONCLUDED IN 1980:

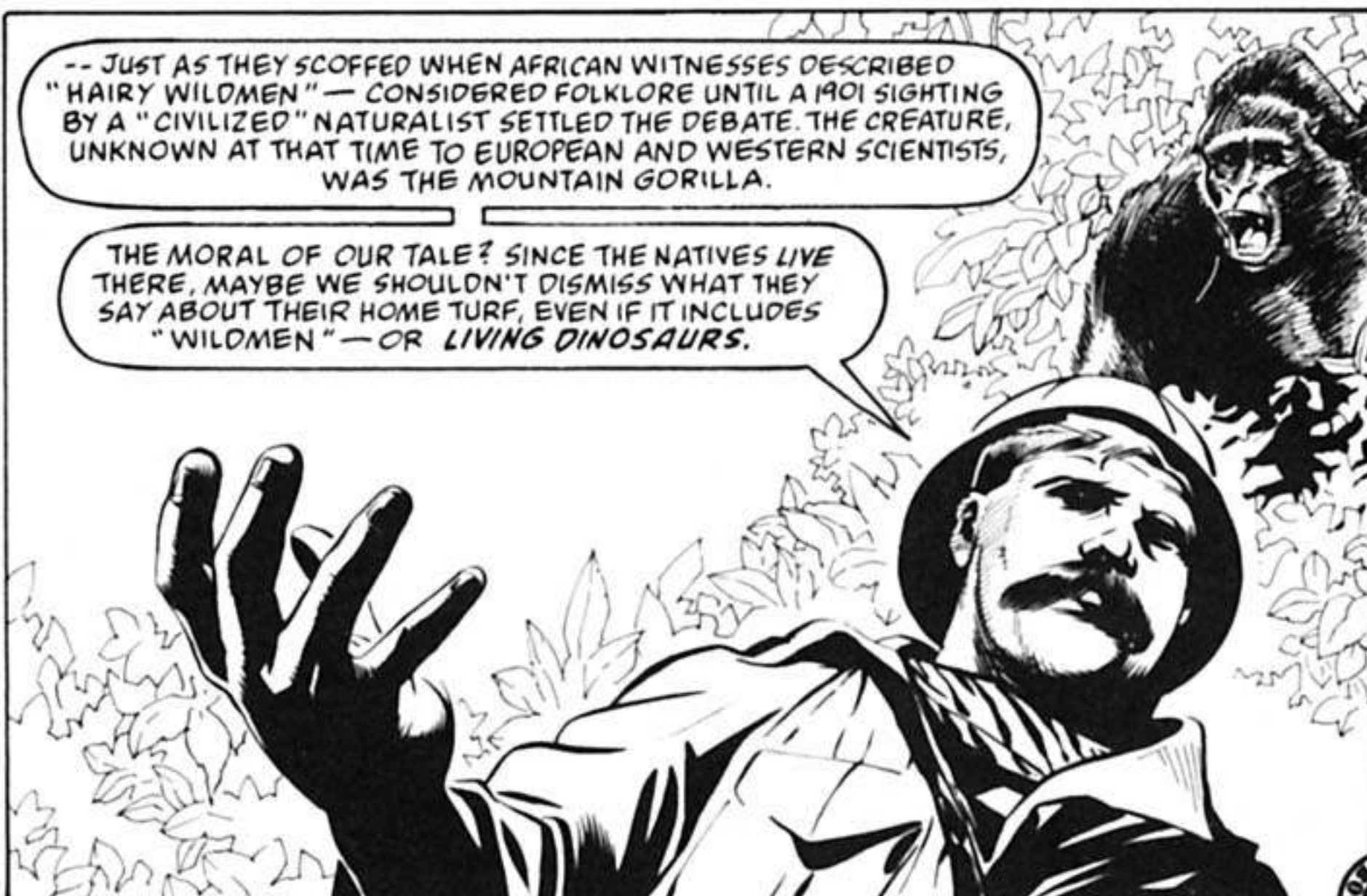
MOKELE-MBEMBE IS A REAL ANIMAL, NOT A MYTH. WE OBTAINED EYEWITNESS REPORTS AS RECENTLY AS 1979.



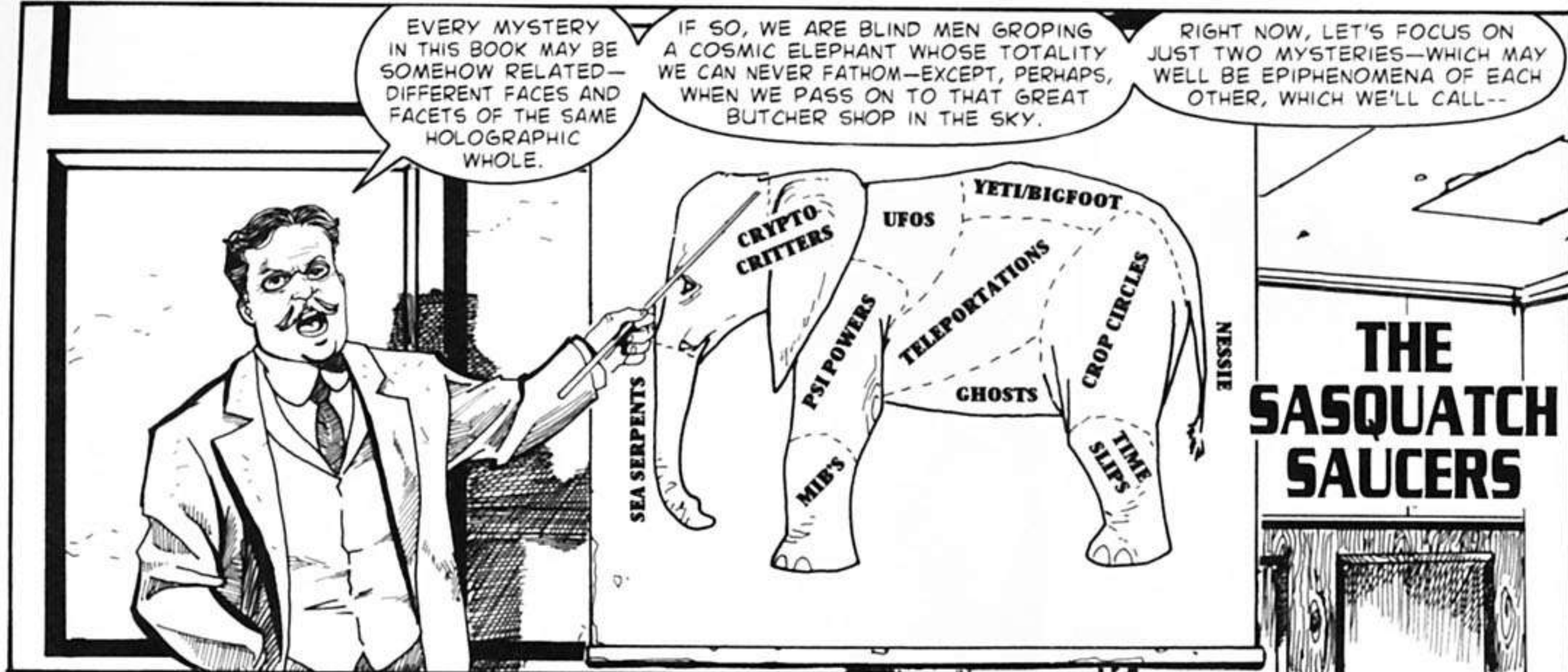
MOST ZOOLOGISTS, HOWEVER, CONTINUE TO SCOFF--

-- JUST AS THEY SCOFFED WHEN AFRICAN WITNESSES DESCRIBED "HAIRY WILDMEN" — CONSIDERED FOLKLORE UNTIL A 1901 SIGHTING BY A "CIVILIZED" NATURALIST SETTLED THE DEBATE. THE CREATURE, UNKNOWN AT THAT TIME TO EUROPEAN AND WESTERN SCIENTISTS, WAS THE MOUNTAIN GORILLA.

THE MORAL OF OUR TALE? SINCE THE NATIVES LIVE THERE, MAYBE WE SHOULDN'T DISMISS WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT THEIR HOME TURF, EVEN IF IT INCLUDES "WILDMEN" — OR LIVING DINOSAURS.









JULY OF 1973 BROUGHT A RASH OF GLOWING-EYES-AND-STENCH-AT-THE-WINDOW REPORTS. THE EYES WERE RED AND THE STINK WAS "ROTTEN EGGS," "SOMETHING DEAD," OR "SULPHUR."



THE COMBINATION OF GLOWING EYES AND TERRIBLE SMELL—ASSOCIATED WITH BIG-FOOT, MOTHMAN, THE FLATWOODS MONSTER, GOATSUCKER, AND OTHER PARANORMAL HUMANOIDS—IS SHARED BY THE "CHIMERA" OF GREEK MYTH--



--SAID TO HAVE "FIERY RED EYES," THE SCENT OF "FIRE AND BRIMSTONE," AND THE ABILITY TO VANISH AS SUDDENLY AS IT APPEARED.

WHEN THE POLISH MEDIUM KLURSKI ALLEGEDLY MATERIALIZED AN "APE-LIKE HUMANOID" IN SEANCE, THE MULTIPLE WITNESSES ALL REPORTED THE SAME "OVERWHELMING STENCH."



FOUL ODOR ATTENDS MANY PARANORMAL EVENTS—AND FLORIDA'S VERSION OF SASQUATCH IS EVEN CALLED "SKUNK-APE."



MEANWHILE, BACK IN PENNSYLVANIA, BIGFOOT WITNESSES EXPERIENCED STRANGE SCRATCHING SOUNDS, THE CRIES OF PHANTOM BABIES, FLICKERING LIGHTS, AND OTHER POLTERGEIST PHENOMENA.



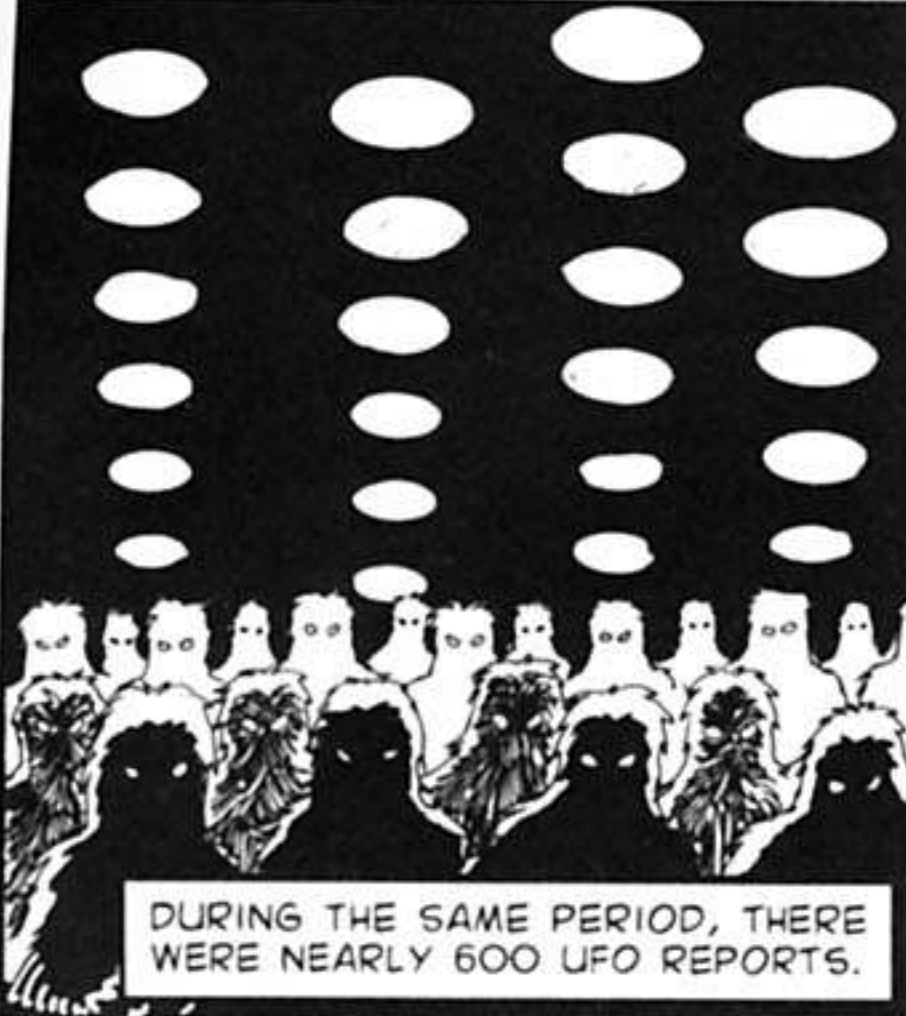
SEPTEMBER 1, 1973: AFTER SNATCHING HER BABY AWAY FROM AN APPROACHING "APELIKE CREATURE" IN ANOTHER PENNSYLVANIA CEMETERY, A WOMAN JUMPED IN HER CAR AND SPED FIVE MILES TO HER FATHER'S HOUSE.



AN HOUR AFTER HER ARRIVAL, SEVERAL WITNESSES REPORTED AN (APPARENTLY PERSISTENT) "APELIKE CREATURE" PEERING AROUND THE CORNER OF THE HOUSE.



FROM JUNE OF 1973 THROUGH FEBRUARY OF 1974, STAN GORDON'S PENNSYLVANIA UFO GROUP DOCUMENTED 118 HAIRY HUMANOID SIGHTINGS BY 245 WITNESSES.



DURING THE SAME PERIOD, THERE WERE NEARLY 600 UFO REPORTS.

IN EARLY SEPTEMBER OF 1973, THREE WOMEN DRIVING THROUGH A WOODED AREA ALLEGEDLY WATCHED A RAMP EMERGE FROM THE SIDE OF A LARGE RECTANGULAR OBJECT RESTING ON THE GROUND.



THREE "APELIKE, HAIR-COVERED CREATURES"—ABOUT SEVEN FEET TALL—RAN DOWN THE RAMP AND INTO THE WOODS.

BEAVER COUNTY, SEPTEMBER 27: TWO TEENAGE GIRLS SAW A "WHITE HAIR-COVERED CREATURE WITH RED EYES" (ALBINO BIGFOOT?) HOLDING A "LUMINOUS SPHERE." A UFO WAS ALSO REPORTED NEARBY.



THE MOST FAMOUS BIG-FOOT/UFO INCIDENT—THE "GREENSBURG CASE"—BEGAN AT 9PM ON OCTOBER 25, WHEN FIFTEEN PENNSYLVANIANS WATCHED A "LARGE RED BALL" DESCEND INTO A FARM PASTURE.



"STEPHEN PULASKI" (A PSUEDONYM), A 22-YEAR-OLD FARMER GRABBED HIS RIFLE AND DROVE OUT TO THE PASTURE WITH 10-YEAR-OLD TWIN NEIGHBORS, WHERE THEY FOUND A 100-FOOT DIAMETER UFO—"DOME-SHAPED, LIKE A BIG BUBBLE"—RESTING ON THE GROUND, NOW GLOWING WHITE AND EMITTING SOUNDS LIKE "A LAWN MOWER MOTOR."



THERE WERE ALSO "CRYING SOUNDS"—AND THE SMELL OF "BURNING RUBBER"—JUST BEFORE ONE OF THE TWINS SHOUTED AND POINTED ALONG THE FENCE--



--AT TWO HAIRY, GLOWING-EYED ENTITIES, EIGHT AND SEVEN FEET TALL.



THE SHAGGY BEINGS WERE "WHINING BACK AND FORTH" AS THEY APPROACHED ALONG THE WIRE FENCE.

spak  
spak

STEPHEN FIRED  
TWICE ABOVE  
THEIR BIZARRE  
HEADS.

AND WHEN THE THINGS KEPT COMING,  
HE PUMPED THREE SLUGS DIRECTLY  
INTO THE CHEST OF THE LARGER ONE.

SPAK  
SPAK  
SPAK

"I KNOW I HIT IT," HE SWORE.

UPON IMPACT, THE LARGER CREATURE  
WHINED AND RAISED ITS HANDS  
TOWARD THE SMALLER ONE--

--WHEREUPON THE MOTOR  
SOUND IMMEDIATELY DIED  
AND THE UFO DISAPPEARED--

--LEAVING A CIRCULAR  
GLOWING AREA ON THE  
GROUND.

THE TWO CREATURES THEN  
TURNED AND SLOWLY SHAM-  
BLED BACK TOWARDS THE  
NEARBY WOODS.

HAD THEY JUST  
MISSED THEIR RIDE?

STEPHEN AND ONE OF THE TWINS (THE  
OTHER HAD ALREADY FLED) THEN EXPE-  
RIENCED EYE IRRITATION AS THEY WENT  
TO CALL THE POLICE.

BY 9:45 THE GLOWING GROUND PATCH  
HAD FADED, BUT WAS STILL BRIGHT  
ENOUGH, ACCORDING TO A PENNSYL-  
VANIA STATE TROOPER, "TO READ  
A NEWSPAPER BY."

TROOPER BYRNE NOTICED FARM ANIMALS  
AVOIDING THE AREA, AND THE TWO MEN  
ALSO DECIDED TO LEAVE WHEN THEY HEARD  
RUSTLING SOUNDS FROM THE WOODS.

I'LL  
CALL STAN  
GORDON'S UFO  
STUDY GROUP  
FROM THE  
BARRACKS.



THE GLOW WAS COMPLETELY GONE BY 1:30AM, WHEN GORDON'S TEAM ARRIVED, AND INVESTIGATOR GEORGE LUTZ'S RADIATION TEST REVEALED--

NOTHING—  
NORMAL  
BACKGROUND  
LEVELS.

THE FARM ANIMALS  
WERE STILL SPOOKED,  
HOWEVER, AND CON-  
TINUED TO SHY AWAY  
FROM THE AREA.

ALL HELL BROKE LOOSE AT 2:00AM  
WHEN THE FARM'S BULL WAS SUDDENLY  
SCARED, THE DOG CAUGHT A SCENT,  
AND STEPHEN PULASKI STARTED SHAK-  
ING AND RUBBING HIS FACE.

MRW RUAAHH...

WHEN STEPHEN BEGAN  
GROWLING LIKE A BEAST,  
HIS FATHER AND GEORGE  
LUTZ WENT TO HIS AID—  
ONLY TO BE VIOLENTLY  
THROWN OFF BY THE AB-  
RUPTLY BERSERK FARMER.

GORDON AND THE OTHERS NOTICED,  
AMONG OTHER THINGS, THE SMELL OF  
"VERY STRONG SULPHUR." INVESTI-  
GATOR DENNIS SMELTZER THEN TURNED  
TO STAN GORDON AND SAID:

HEY, STAN  
...I'M STARTING  
TO FEEL LIGHT-  
HEADED.

MEANWHILE, STEPHEN WAS SNARLING AND  
FLAILING HIS ARMS LIKE A WILD ANIMAL.

RAOWR

GET AWAY  
FROM ME! IT'S  
HERE!

STEPHEN THEN COLLAPSED FACE-DOWN  
INTO FRESH MANURE, PROVING THAT  
IF IT WAS ALL JUST AN ACT, HE WAS  
A VIRTUOSO.

Splutch

STEPHEN LATER CLAIMED THAT HE HAD  
SEEN A FIGURE "IN A BLACK HAT AND  
CLOAK, CARRYING A SICKLE."

IF MAN DOESN'T  
STRAIGHTEN UP, THE  
END WILL COME SOON!  
THE WHOLE WORLD  
WILL BURN!



PSYCHIATRIST BERTHOLD SCHWARZ NOTES THAT THE GREENSBURG ENTITIES RESEMBLED A CROSS BETWEEN THE TYPICAL SASQUATCH AND A MEDIEVAL WEREWOLF.

GRRRRRR!

GARRR!

RRRR!



AND ALTHOUGH STEPHEN CLAIMED NO PHYSICAL BITES, HE CERTAINLY BEHAVED AS IF "INFECTED" OR "POSSESSED," ACTING MORE LIKE AN ANIMAL THAN THE HUMANIDS DID.

FURTHERMORE, STEPHEN'S "SICKLE FIGURE" WAS A CROSS BETWEEN THE CLASSIC GRIM REAPER AND UFO LORE'S MYSTERIOUS "MAN IN BLACK."



GLOOM AND DOOM!

THE SKY IS FALLING!



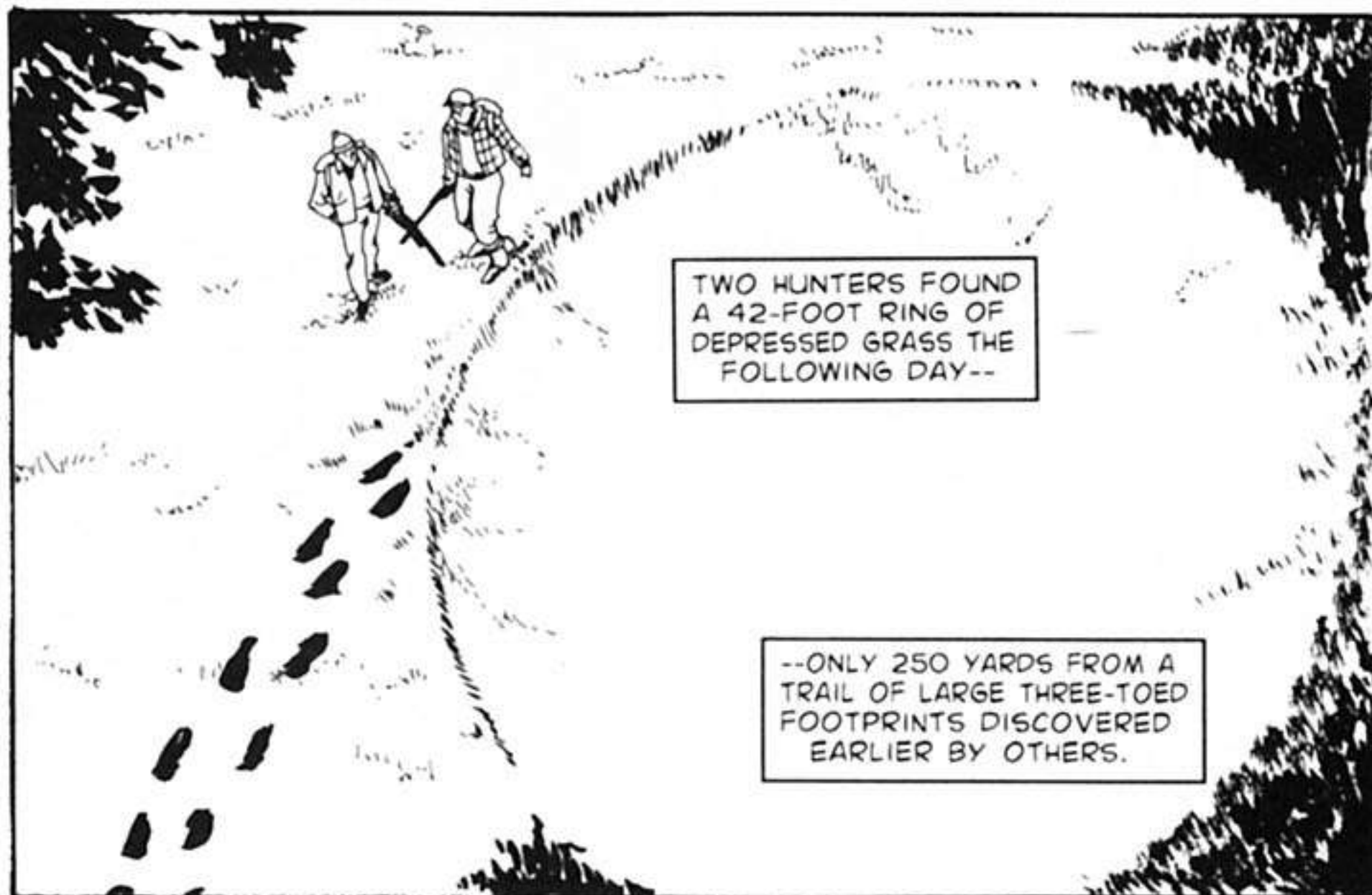
TELL EVERYONE BUT SAY NOTHING!

THE DIRE WARNING WAS THE SAME MESSAGE RECEIVED BY EARLY "FLYING SAUCER CONTACTEES," MORE RECENT "UFO ABDUCTEES," AND SCHIZOPHRENICS ALIKE.



WERE PEOPLE IN THE PAST SIMILARLY TRANSFORMED? DID SOME LONG-AGO SASQUATCH-Saucer ENCOUNTER INSPIRE THE LYCANTHROPY LEGEND OF "WEREWOLVES" AND "WITCH-BALLS?"

A WEEK AFTER THE GREENSBURG CASE, MORE THAN A HUNDRED PEOPLE SAW A LARGE DISC-SHAPED OBJECT ABOVE THE NEARBY MIDLAND AREA, WHERE POLICE WERE INVESTIGATING "STRANGE ANIMAL" REPORTS.



TWO HUNTERS FOUND A 42-FOOT RING OF DEPRESSED GRASS THE FOLLOWING DAY--

--ONLY 250 YARDS FROM A TRAIL OF LARGE THREE-TOED FOOTPRINTS DISCOVERED EARLIER BY OTHERS.

A YEAR LATER IN NEARBY UNIONTOWN, A WOMAN INVESTIGATING NOISES ON HER PORCH ENCOUNTERED A SEVEN-FOOT-TALL "APELIKE CREATURE"--



--WHICH DISAPPEARED AFTER TAKING A SHOTGUN BLAST.



THE WOMAN'S SON-IN-LAW REVEALED A SIMILAR ENCOUNTER FROM THE PREVIOUS NOVEMBER. IN THAT CASE, THE BEING COULD BE HEARD RUNNING AWAY AFTER IT TURNED INVISIBLE.



EXPLORING CANADA IN 1924, JAMES RENNIE REPORTED BIGFOOT-LIKE TRACKS "SPRINGING INTO BEING AS THEY CAME TOWARDS ME."



THE INCIDENT ENDED, RENNIE SAID, WHEN A "LARGE BLOB OF WATER HIT ME IN THE FACE."

THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA DESERT, SPRING OF 1968: AWAKENED BY AN EXPLOSION TWO PROSPECTORS SAW A "RED, CIRCULAR FLYING SAUCER."

BROUHN



FOLLOWING THE RED LIGHT TO AN ADJACENT CANYON, THE MEN FOUND THE SAUCER HOVERING ABOVE ENTITIES WITH "GLOWING RED EYES" MARCHING IN SINGLE FILE.



ALTHOUGH UFO AND ENTITIES ALIKE WERE SILENT, THE PROSPECTORS COULD HEAR MECHANICAL CLANKING SOUNDS AND SOMETHING LIKE "A CHURCH BELL."

THE PROSPECTORS SAID THEY WERE SHOCKED TO FIND "TWO OF THE THINGS STANDING RIGHT BEHIND" THEM—AND WHEN THE BEINGS "JUST STOOD THERE," THE MEN FLED.



DECEMBER 2, 1974: DRIVING TO HIS WISCONSIN FARM, FREDERICK BOSAK ENTERED DENSE FOG TO FIND A TRANSPARENT DOME-SHAPED OBJECT ON THE ROAD.



"I'VE NEVER SEEN A WEIRDER CONTRAPTION," HE SAID.

INSIDE WAS A HAIRY HUMANOID—THAT SEEMED TO BE "STRUGGLING," AS IF TRYING TO ESCAPE.



BOSAK CONSIDERED RAMMING THE OBJECT, BUT CHANGED HIS MIND WHEN THE INSIDE OF HIS CAR TURNED "PITCH BLACK" AND HE HEARD A "WHOOSHING." HE SAID, "YOU CAN BET I GOT OUT OF THERE FAST."



AT THIS POINT, IT'S PROBABLY NO SHOCK TO FIND SASQUATCH FITTING INTO YET ANOTHER PARANORMAL PUZZLE—NAMESLY, MYSTERY MUTILATIONS.



COLORADO FARMERS "JIM AND SUSAN EVANS" (BOTH PSEUDONYMS) WERE PLAGUED BY UFOS IN 1975, SEEING AS MANY AS NINE DISCS HOVERING ABOVE THEIR HOUSE AT ONE TIME.



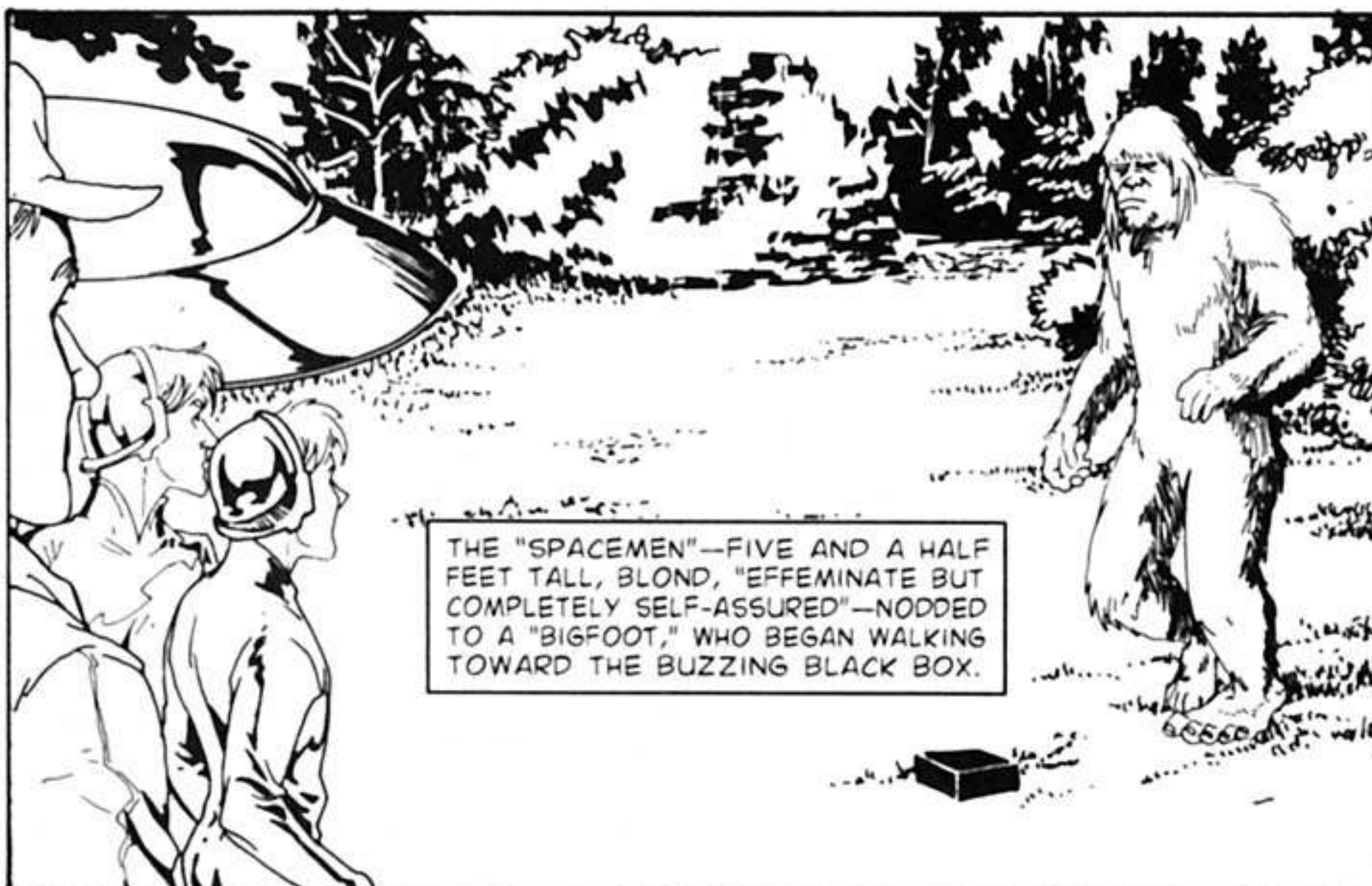
THEY ALSO RECEIVED NUMEROUS VISITS FROM A SASQUATCH ENTITY—WHO ONCE MIMICKED SUSAN AS SHE SHADED HER EYES TO PEER AT THE THING.



AFTER FOUR OF HIS CATTLE HAD BEEN MUTILATED, JIM ARGUED WITH THE LOCAL SHERIFF, WHO ALLEGEDLY BLURTED:



ONE NIGHT JIM AND ANOTHER MAN CAME UPON A BLACK BOX "BUZZING LIKE A BUNCH OF ANGRY BEES"—AND THEN, BACKING OFF, ENCOUNTERED TWO "NORDIC TYPE" UFO BEINGS WHO SPOKE "VERNACULAR ENGLISH."





WHILE DOING A "KARNAK"-TYPE ROUTINE IN 1974, CALIFORNIA PSYCHIC JOYCE PARTISE WAS GIVEN A SEALED ENVELOPE CONTAINING A SASQUATCH PRINT PHOTO.

THESE THINGS ARE COMING FROM OUTER SPACE!

YOU KNOW THOSE HAIRY THINGS THAT RUN AROUND—THE APE-MAN? HE'S NOT AN APE!



"THERE'S THOUSANDS OF THEM," PARTISE WENT ON. "THEY'RE FROM ANOTHER CIVILIZATION LONG AGO AND HAVE MUTATED. NOW THEY'RE ABLE TO COMMUNICATE WITH THOSE IN OUTER SPACE..."

"THERE'S A HOLE IN THE MOUNTAIN. THESE ALIENS ARE USING THEM FOR LABORERS, BUT I CAN'T TELL WHAT THEY'RE BUILDING."



RESEARCHER PAUL RUSSELL CLAIMS SASQUATCH IS "AN INTERDIMENSIONAL BEING WHO GUARDS DOORWAYS TO PARALLEL UNIVERSES."

TICKET, PLEASE.



UFOLOGIST MARK MORAVEC OFFERS OTHER POSSIBILITIES: THAT THERE ARE DIFFERENT UFO ENTITIES, SOME RESEMBLING THE "REAL" SASQUATCH BY SHEER COINCIDENCE.



SOME ABDUCTEES REPORT "GRAYS" USING HAIRY HUMANOID TO PERFORM THE "HARD PHYSICAL TASKS."



IF BOTH PHENOMENA ARE FROM THE SAME "OTHER DIMENSION," MAYBE THE PARANORMAL ANTHROPOIDS ARE NOTHING BUT ESCAPED PETS OR ZOO SPECIMENS.



THERE IT IS!

YIKES!



FINALLY, THE UFO-LINK MIGHT ANSWER SASQUATCH SKEPTICS' BIGGEST QUESTION:

IF THESE THINGS PHYSICALLY EXIST, WHY HASN'T ANYONE STUMBLED ON A CARCASS BY NOW, OR AT LEAST SOME BONES?

PERHAPS LIKE THE CAVALRY, UFOS SIMPLY REFUSE TO LEAVE THEIR DEAD BEHIND.





# CHAPTER FOUR

## FROM THE BEYOND

Ghosts and psychic phenomena may or may not be related, but they appear together in this final chapter anyway — seemingly part and parcel of the same invasive and invisible mystery.

Simultaneously and paradoxically, the notion of dead-but-undead apparitions is both terrifying and optimistic. Death is the Great Unknown, and its denizens — ghosts, spirits, poltergeists — are just as alien as UFO occupants. And yet, if they truly exist, then they are vivid proof that death is *not* the end.

Unless they're *something else* — other-dimensional Cosmic Tricksters perhaps, working the ultimate con game by merely masquerading as the souls of body-dead humans, and perhaps by concocting *all* inexplicable paranormal events...



EVER GET THE SINKING FEELING THAT WE'VE ALL BEEN PUT HERE FOR THE TWISTED AMUSEMENT OF SOME HIGHER BEING?

IF SO, GET IN ON THE JOKE WITH THESE--



## COSMIC TRICKSTER Quickies

BELIEF IN THE LOST CONTINENT CALLED LEMURIA, NOW CONSIDERED SHEER FANTASY, WAS PROMPTED BY A SCIENTIFIC THEORY EXPLAINING THE DISJOINTED DISTRIBUTION OF LEMURS AROUND THE WORLD.



GENESIS FIGURE AND FAMED SODOMITE, LOT, ALLEGEDLY HAD HIS WIFE TURNED INTO A PILLAR OF SALT BY GOD. BUT HE MAY HAVE BEEN A BIGAMIST --



-- AT LEAST IF THE NUMEROUS DEAD SEA PILLARS OF SALT ARE ANY INDICATION.

SEPARATED AT BIRTH? THE ANCIENT EGYPTIAN GOD SEBEK -- AND LONG BEACH'S JAKE THE ALLIGATOR MAN.



BY HIS OWN ADMISSION, PRESIDENT ABRAHAM LINCOLN FOLLOWED ADVICE RECEIVED FROM SPIRITS AT SEANCES.

TAKE THE NIGHT OFF, ABE, GO TO THE THEATER. BLOW YOUR MIND...



AND HERE'S A 1.15-MILLION-YEAR-OLD HUMAN SKULL (EVEN THOUGH HUMANS HAVE SUPPOSEDLY EXISTED FOR ONLY 100,000 YEARS) FOUND BY HANS RECK IN AFRICA'S OLDUVAI GORGE --

-- COMPARED WITH THE CONTINENT OF AFRICA ITSELF.



PRETTY CLOSE. JUST ANOTHER CRAZED COINCIDENCE FROM THE COSMIC TRICKSTER.





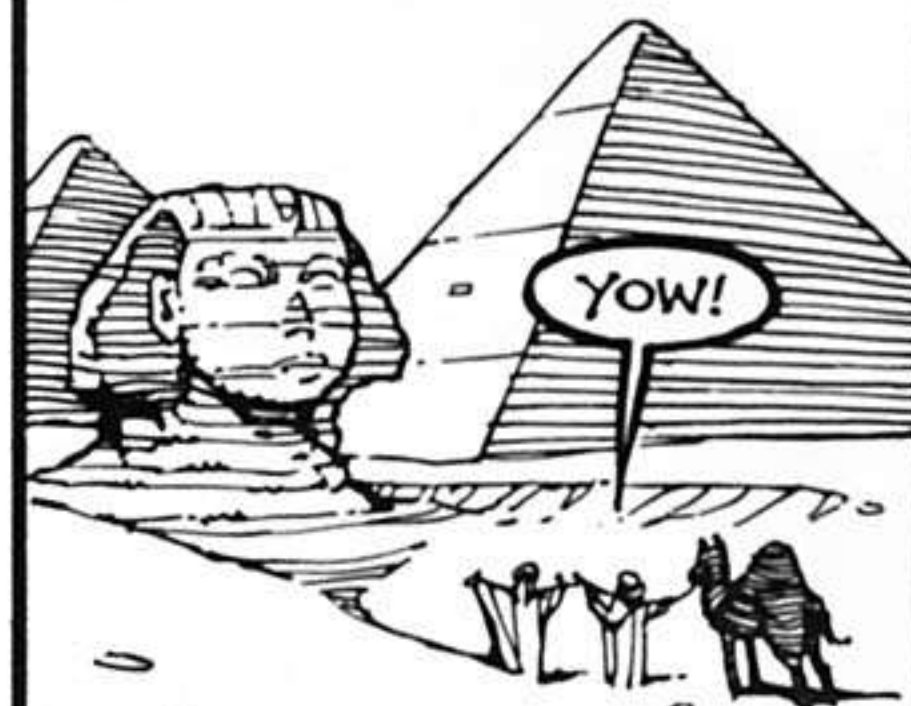
MESS WITH ME, MODERN PUNKS, AND YOU DIE!

TUT, TUT, TUT, BOY KING, LET'S NOT GET AHEAD OF OURSELVES! AFTER ALL, WE'VE YET TO DETERMINE WHETHER YOUR SO-CALLED REVENGE IS MERE MUMMERY OR A GENUINE —

## CURSE OF THE MUMMY'S BOY



WHEN THE ARABS FIRST ENTERED EGYPT IN THE SEVENTH CENTURY, THEY WERE AWED BY ALREADY ANCIENT WONDERS AND PROFOUND MYSTERY.



STRANGE CARVINGS OUTSIDE LABYRINTHINE VAULTS WERE SAID TO EMBODY SUCH CURSES AS: "DEATH SHALL COME ON SWIFT WINGS TO ANYONE WHO VIOLATES THE PHARAOH'S TOMB."



STRANGER STILL WERE THE HIEROGLYPHIC PICTOGRAMS INSIDE THE TOMBS — ANCIENT COMIC STRIPS PORTRAYING MYSTICAL CEREMONIES OF MUMMIFICATION AND LITERAL RESURRECTION FROM DEATH.



CLEARLY, THE ARABS DECIDED, THESE VANISHED EGYPTIANS HAD BEEN EXTREMELY MAGICAL DUDES!

THE ARABS FURTHER BELIEVED THAT "INVISIBLE TOMB TREASURES" COULD BE MATERIALIZED BY HIEROGLYPHIC INCANTATIONS — SINCE THE OLD WORD FOR EGYPT WAS KEME, MEANING "BLACK LAND" (THE FERTILE STRIPS ALONG THE NILE), THIS MAGICAL EGYPTIAN MATTER WAS CALLED:

AL KEME!



LATER, "ALCHEMY" BECAME THE BELIEF THAT MATTER COULD BE ALTERED IN STRUCTURE AND APPEARANCE VIA SPELLS AND POTIONS.

SURELY THE CURSES OF SUCH POTENT SORCERERS MEANT THAT THE DEAD WOULD LITERALLY RISE TO PUNISH ANYONE DISTURBING THEIR REST.

WAKE ME UP TRYIN' TO ROB MY CRIB, WILLYA?!

YAAAA!





QUAINT SEVENTH CENTURY  
SUPERSTITION, YOU MIGHT  
SAY, WITH NO RELEVANCE  
TO OUR ENLIGHTENED  
MODERN TIMES?

HAH! THINK AGAIN!  
AS WE ZOOM AHEAD TO  
THE TWENTIETH CENTURY.



IN 1922, GEORGE E.S.M. HERBERT,  
FIFTH EARL OF CARNARVON,  
BECAME A PATRON OF  
ARCHAEOLOGIST HOWARD CARTER.

I'M THE MONEY!

I'M THE MAN!



BANKROLLED BY LORD CARNARVON  
TO SEARCH FOR THE TOMB OF THE  
YOUNG PHARAOH TUTANKHAMUN,  
(WHO DIED AT AGE 18 IN 1352 BC),  
HOWARD CARTER CELEBRATED  
BY BUYING HIMSELF A CANARY.

THIS YELLOW SINGING BIRD  
WILL BRING US LUCK!



INDEED, BY EARLY NOVEMBER,  
IN THE VAST DESERT MORTUARY  
KNOWN AS THE VALLEY OF THE  
KINGS, CARTER'S TEAM HAD  
EXCAVATED SIXTEEN SUNKEN  
STEPS LEADING STRAIGHT  
DOWN TO THE SEALED DOOR  
OF TUT'S TOMB.



NOTIFIED IN ENGLAND, LORD  
CARNARVON ARRIVED AT LUXOR  
ON NOVEMBER 23.

IT WAS THEN THAT DISASTER, SUPPOSEDLY FORETOLD, STRUCK:  
A COBRA DEVoured CARTER'S LUCKY CANARY — AND, SINCE  
EGYPTIAN ROYALTY WAS TRADITIONALLY PROTECTED BY THE COBRA  
GODDESS WADJET, THE WORKERS PREDICTED THERE WOULD BE:

DIRE DEATH!



THE FEVERISH WORK NEVERTHELESS PROCEEDED — UNTIL THE SANCTUM WAS FINALLY BREACHED ON  
FEBRUARY 17, 1923, REVEALING THE MAGNIFICENT TREASURES OF TUTANKHAMUN FOR THE FIRST  
TIME IN 3000 YEARS.

THERE ARE SOME  
MARVELOUS OBJECTS HERE,  
LORD CARNARVON.

YES, CARTER,  
WONDERFUL THINGS!



AN UNDERSTATEMENT, TO SAY THE LEAST!



AT SOME POINT DURING THE DAY, IN A FLAGRANTLY VAMPIRIC ACT—



A MOSQUITO FEASTED ON LORD CARNARVON'S LEFT CHEEK.

BUT AMIDST SUCH EXQUISITE TREASURE — INCOMPARABLE ARTISTRY IN GOLD AND PRECIOUS STONES — THE MOSQUITO BITE SEEMED INCONSEQUENTIAL.

FINEST STUFF IN ALL OF EGYPT, MILORD — LET'S GET IT OUT OF HERE!

ABSOLUTELY — YEOWCH!



AND THUS WAS ONE OF THE VALLEY'S LAST UNTOUCHED TOMBS FINALLY LOOTED BY THIEVES WITH A NEW NAME —



"ARCHAEOLOGISTS."

PERHAPS DISTRACTED BY THE DAZZLING PLUNDER, LORD CARNARVON NICKED HIS MOSQUITO BITE WHILE SHAVING.

OUCH! DAMMIT ALL!



BUT STILL HE PAID NO HEED, RETURNING TO SEE TUT'S TOMB STRIPPED TO THE FUNGUS-COVERED WALLS.

CAREFUL, MAN!



THERE WAS TROUBLE WITH THE EGYPTIAN AUTHORITIES WHEN CARTER AND CARNARVON INSISTED THAT THE DIG WAS "THEIR PROPERTY," THEREBY STEALING NOT JUST ITS CONTENTS BUT THE ENTIRE TOMB ITSELF!

GRRR!

GNASH!

SNARL!



WHEN THE DISPUTE LED TO A NEWS BLACKOUT ON THE SENSATIONAL TUT FIND, THE PRESS RESORTED TO INVENTING ITS OWN STORIES —



— SUCH AS GOTHIC NOVELIST MARIE CORELLI FORETELLING THE DEATHS OF ALL INVOLVED WITH THE OPENING OF THE TOMB, AS AN EVITABLE RESULT OF THOSE CURSES WHICH HAD SO ALARMED THE SEVENTH-CENTURY ARABS.



IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT TUTANKHAMUN'S TOMB BORE NO HIEROGLYPHIC WARNING — AND SUCH "DIRE CURSES" WERE NEVER MEANT TO BE TAKEN LITERALLY IN THE FIRST PLACE.



BUT ON THE OTHER HAND...

LORD CARNARVON'S MOSQUITO BITE BECAME INFECTED, DEVELOPED INTO PNEUMONIA AND KILLED HIM IN HIS CAIRO HOTEL ROOM ON APRIL 5, 1923, JUST A MONTH AFTER THE TOMB LOOTING.



THE ENTIRE CITY OF CAIRO BLACKED OUT AT THE EXACT MOMENT OF HIS DEATH.



ALSO AT THAT MOMENT, IN ENGLAND, LORD CARNARVON'S FOX TERRIER SUPPOSEDLY LET OUT A "FRIGHTFUL HOWL." —



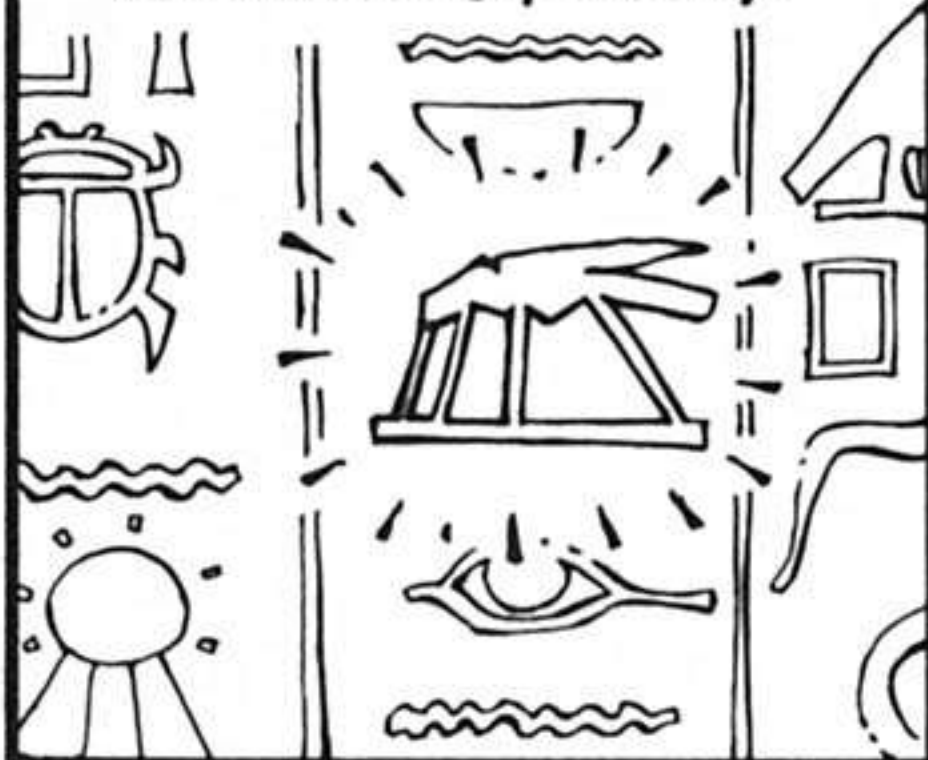
— BEFORE DROPPING DEAD, TO THE CONSIDERABLE SHOCK OF HIGHCLERE CASTLE'S HOUSEKEEPER.



EVEN AS THE PRESS JUMPED ALL OVER THE CURSE STORY, A BLEMISH WAS REPORTEDLY FOUND ON THE LEFT CHEEK OF TUTANKHAMUN'S MUMMY — IN THE SAME SPOT AS LORD CARNARVON'S FATALLY INFECTED VAMPIRE BITE.



BLASTED AS BUNKUM FROM THE BEGINNING, THE NOTION THAT A MOSQUITO COULD BE THE INSTRUMENT OF AN ANCIENT MUMMY'S REVENGE WAS NEVERTHELESS BOUGHT AND BELIEVED BY MANY.





THEN OTHER DEATHS STARTED PILING UP: PROFESSORS BREASTED AND LA FLEUR DIED AFTER VISITING THE TOMB, AS DID THE AMERICAN MILLIONAIRE GEORGE JAY GOULD —

CARTER'S ASSISTANT A.C. MACE WAS STRICKEN WITH FEVER AND EVENTUALLY DIED —

ANOTHER ASSISTANT, RICHARD BETHELL, DIED AT THE AGE OF 45 —

LORD CARNARVON'S NURSE DIED, EVEN YOUNGER, AT 28.

IN ALL, DEATH CLAIMED SOME 23 PEOPLE LINKED TO THE TOMBS, WHILE MANY OTHERS SUFFERED VARIOUS MISFORTUNES.

MEANWHILE, IN A BIZARRE COMBINATION OF BEAUTY AND BAD TASTE, TUTANKHAMUN AND ALL THINGS EGYPTIAN INFLUENCED EVERYTHING FROM ART TO ARCHITECTURE DURING THE DECO CRAZE OF THE 20'S AND 30'S —



--WHILE HOLLYWOOD SHUFFLED ONTO THE BANDWAGON WITH A SERIES OF MUMMY-CURSE POTBOILERS BEGINNING IN 1932.

A RATIONAL MIND WOULD PROBABLY DISMISS THE "TUT CURSE" AS NOTHING BUT A COMBINATION OF COINCIDENCE AND THE "BAD AIR" THEORY.



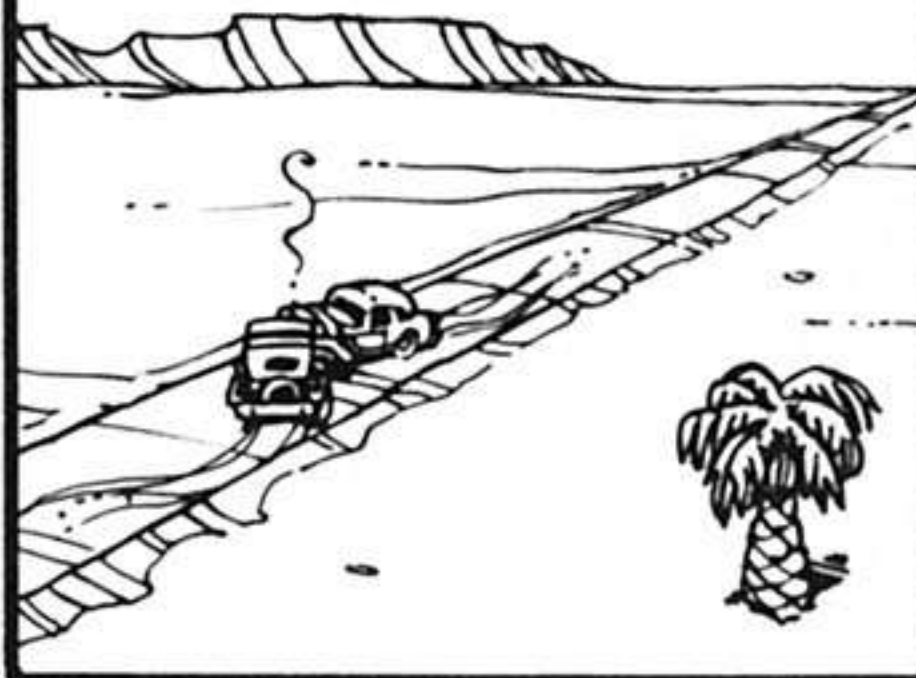
PEOPLE DO DIE, AFTER ALL, WHETHER THEY'VE DEFILED EGYPTIAN TOMBS OR NOT —

—AND SUCH TOMB OPENINGS MAY WELL UNLEASH MILLENNIA-OLD BACTERIA, FUNGI AND TOXINS ON THE ELDERLY, INFIRM AND OTHERWISE SUSCEPTIBLE.



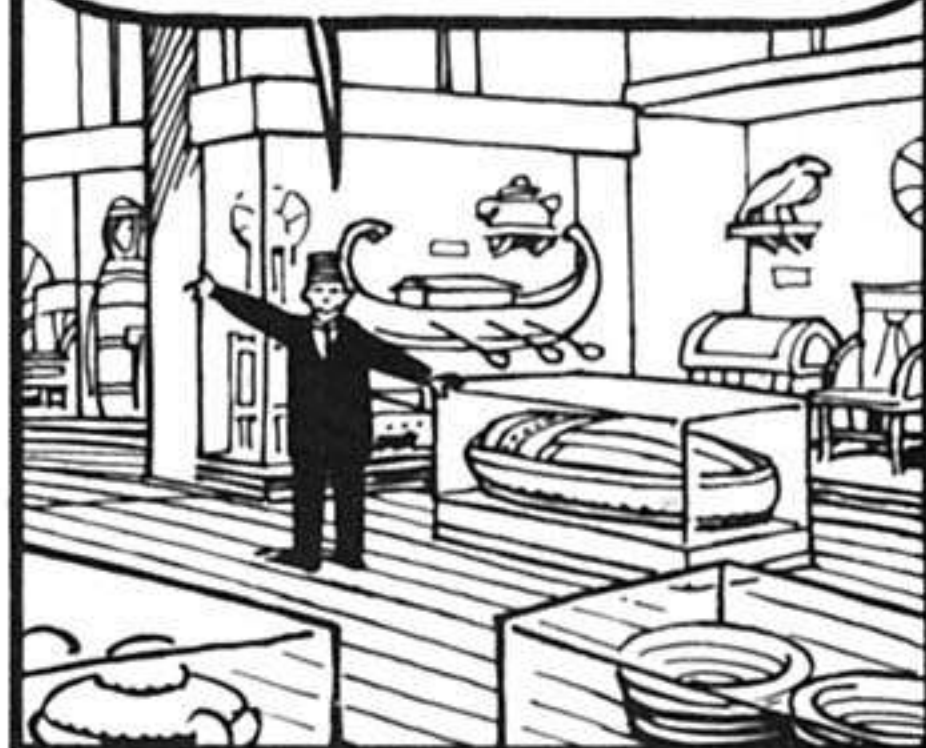
LORD CARNARVON, FOR EXAMPLE, MAY HAVE CARELESSLY RUBBED ANCIENT COOTIES FROM THE CAVERN WALL INTO HIS NICKED MOSQUITO BITE.

AND YET, YEARS LATER, SHORTLY AFTER DEBUNKING CURSE-DEATHS AS NOTHING BUT FUNGAL INFECTIONS DR. EZZEDIN TAHA DIED IN A 1962 CAR CRASH IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE BETWEEN CAIRO AND SUEZ.



UNDAUNTED, EGYPTIAN DIRECTOR OF ANTIQUITIES DR. GAMAL EL-DIN MEHREZ DECLARED IN 1972:

LOOK AT ME! INVOLVED WITH TOMBS AND MUMMIES ALL MY LIFE—SURELY THE BEST PROOF THAT IT IS NOTHING BUT COINCIDENCE!





FOUR WEEKS LATER, WITH THE TUT TREASURES COINCIDENTALLY EN ROUTE TO ENGLAND FOR A 50TH ANNIVERSARY EXHIBITION, THE HAILE AND HEARTY MEHREZ ABRUPTLY DROPPED DEAD.



MISFORTUNE ALSO DOGGED THE RAF CREW WHICH TRANSPORTED TUT RELICS. IAN LANSDOWN, FOR EXAMPLE, KICKED THE DEATHMASK CRATE IN DEFIANCE OF THE CURSE, ONLY TO BREAK THE SAME LEG IN A LATER FREAK ACCIDENT.

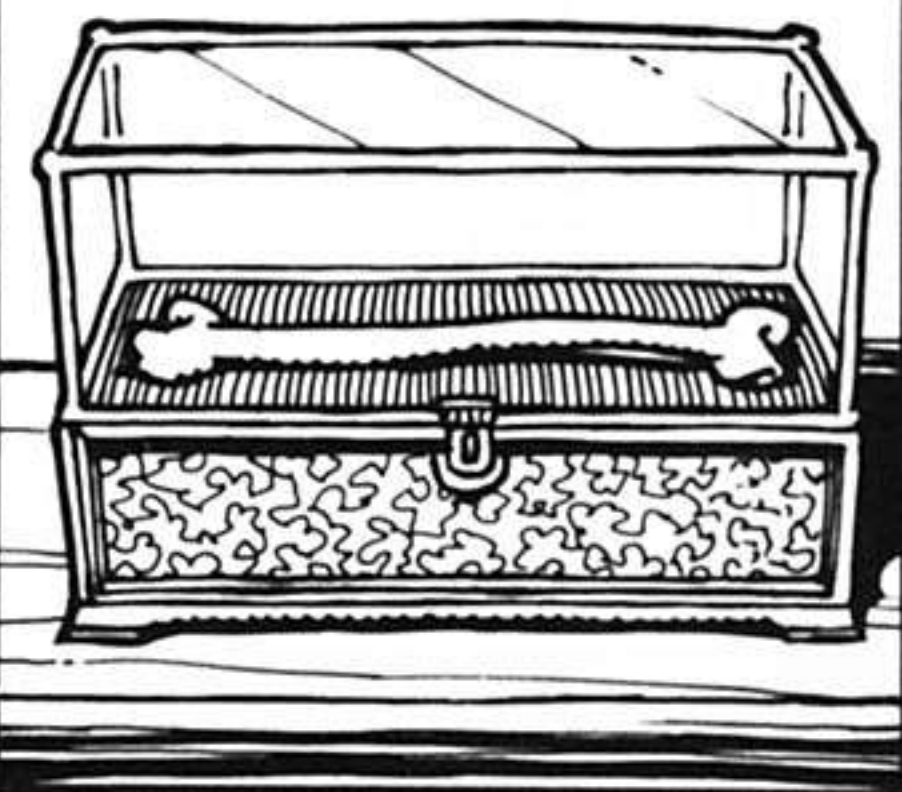


TWO OTHER CREW MEMBERS SUFFERED HEART ATTACKS, AND ANOTHER BLAMED HIS DIVORCE ON KING TUT: "THE CURSE WAS JUST A BIG LAUGH DURING THE FLIGHT, BUT NOW IT'S NOT SO FUNNY."

IN 1936, A DIFFERENT TOMB WAS OPENED AT GIZA, FROM WHICH A MUMMY BONE WAS PURCHASED BY SIR ALEXANDER SETON AND HIS WIFE ZEYLA.



THE COUPLE RETURNED TO EDINBURGH, WHERE THEY DISPLAYED THE SINISTER SOUVENIR IN THEIR DRAWING ROOM.



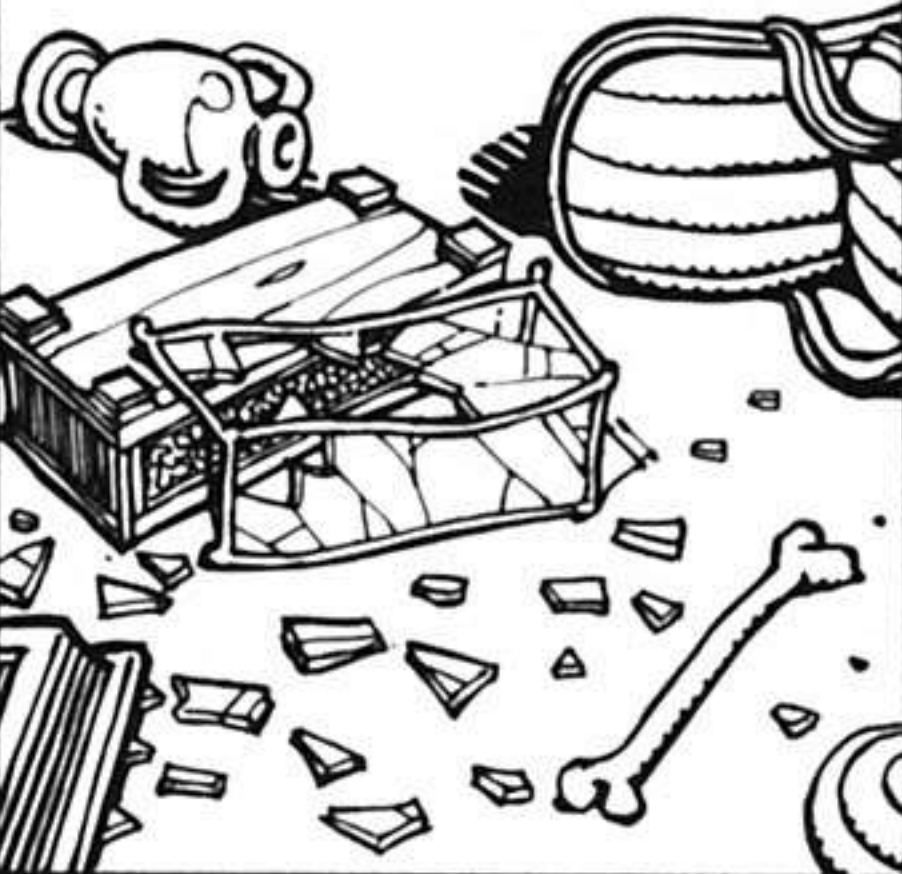
SOON AFTER, THEY BOTH FELL SERIOUSLY ILL, THEN, MYSTERIOUS FIRES BEGAN BREAKING OUT IN THEIR HOME.



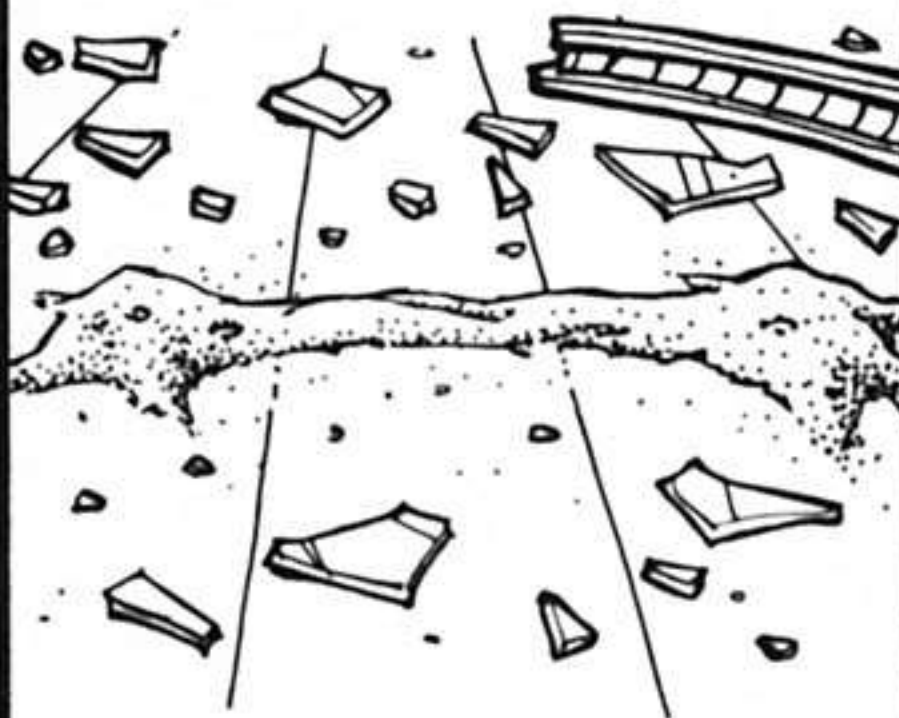
A NINE-YEAR-OLD VISITOR CLAIMED HE SAW A STRANGELY-ROBED FIGURE IN THE DRAWING ROOM, WHEN THERE WAS NO ONE ELSE AT HOME.



POLTERGEISTS APPARENTLY INFESTED THE HOUSE, MOVING AND BREAKING VARIOUS OBJECTS AND FURNITURE, INCLUDING THE BONE'S FIRST DISPLAY CASE.



IT ENDED ONLY WHEN THE SECOND DISPLAY CASE ALSO SHATTERED FOR NO APPARENT REASON — AND THE BONE WAS FOUND REDUCED TO MUMMY DUST.



THE SETONS EVENTUALLY DIVORCED.

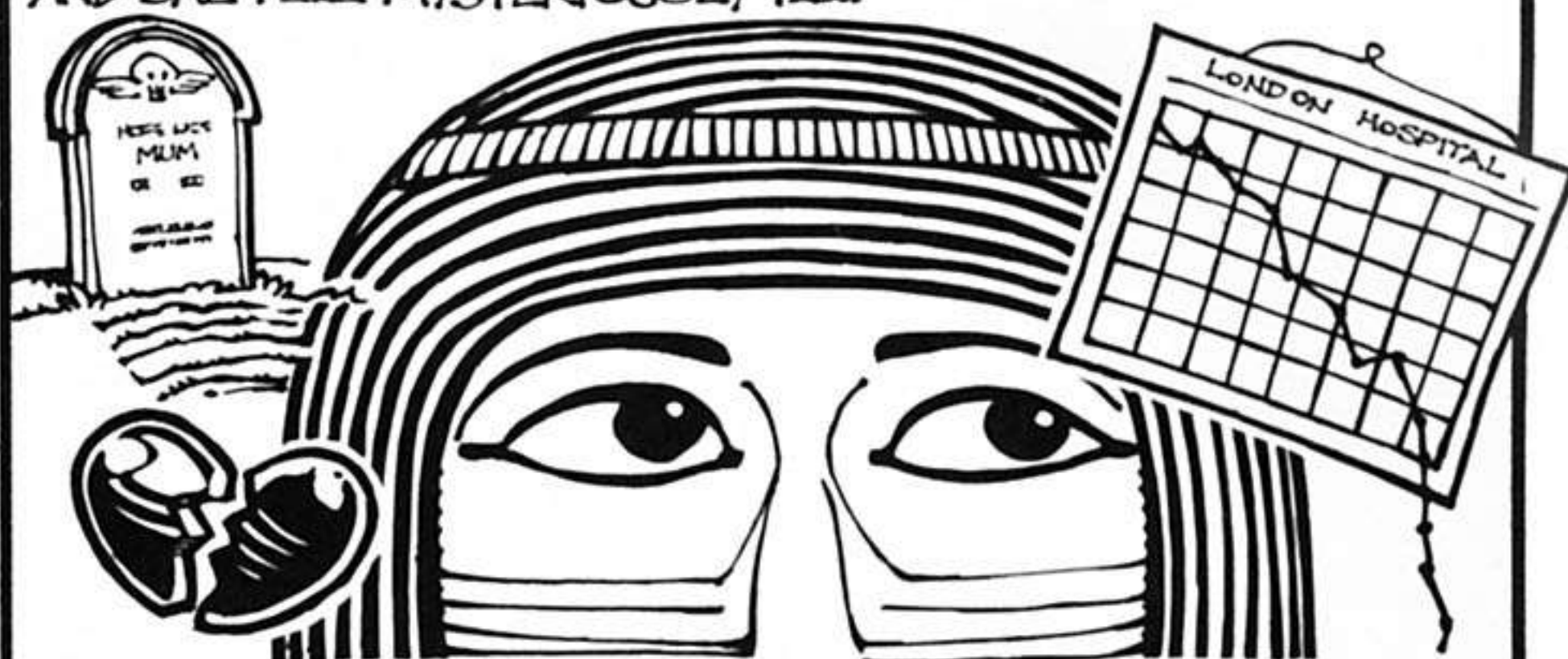


ANOTHER ALLEGED CURSE IS ATTACHED TO A THEBAN PRIESTESS OF AMEN-RA, WHOSE "HAUNTED SARCOPHAGUS" WAS PURCHASED BY DOUGLAS MURRAY IN THE 1860'S —



— WHEREUPON HE LOST AN ARM IN A SHOOTING ACCIDENT.

WHEN A LONDON JOURNALIST BORROWED THE SARCOPHAGUS LID, HER MOTHER IMMEDIATELY DIED, HER ENGAGEMENT WAS BROKEN, AND SHE FELL MYSTERIOUSLY ILL.



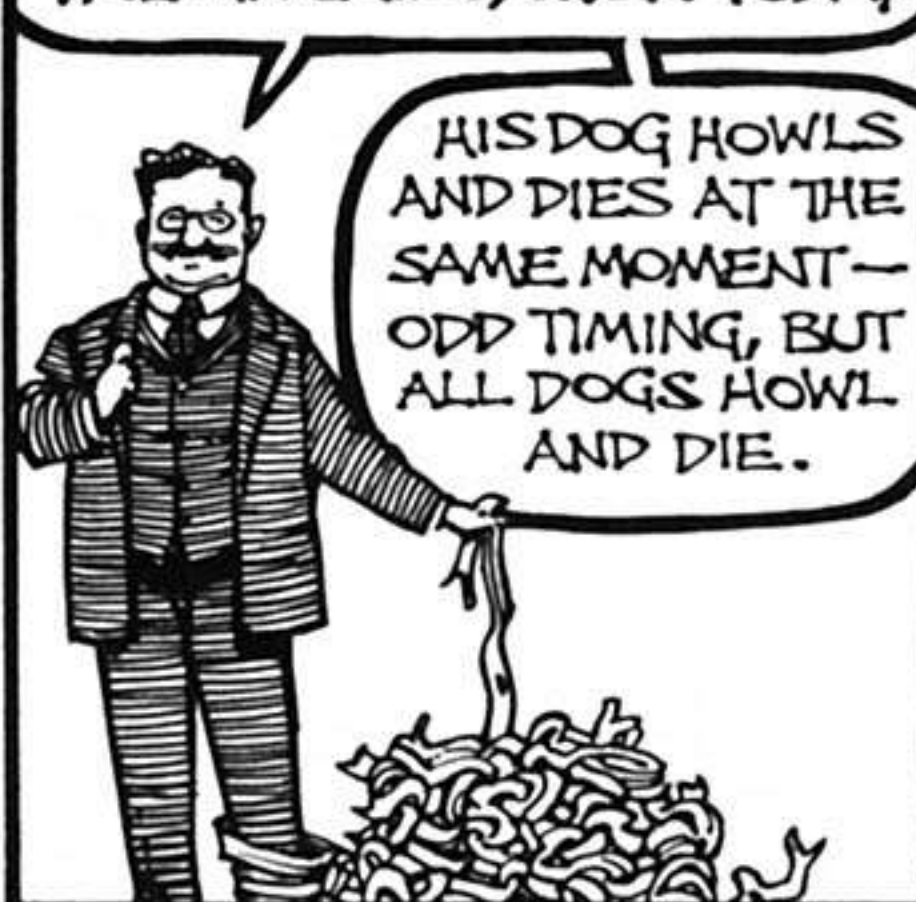
MURRAY DECIDED TO DONATE THE DAMNED THING TO THE BRITISH MUSEUM — WHERE AN EGYPTOLOGIST REPORTEDLY DIED WHILE STUDYING IT.

THEN A PHOTOGRAPHER CLAIMED HE DEVELOPED FILM SHOWING THE LID'S FACE WICKEDLY TWISTED INTO AN EXPRESSION OF MALEVOLENCE.



OFFICIALLY, THE MUSEUM TODAY SAYS THIS IS RUBBISH.

SO WHAT DO WE MAKE OF IT ALL? LORD CARNARVON DIES AND THE LIGHTS GO OUT — BUT THE POWER FREQUENTLY FAILS IN CAIRO, EVEN TODAY.



MOST EMPHATICALLY REPUDIATING ANY MUMMY'S REVENGE IS THE FACT THAT THE MAIN MAN AND "CHIEF PLUNDERER," HOWARD CARTER HIMSELF, LIVED TO A RIPE OLD AGE.

CURSED BE ANY CURSE THAT CURSES ME!



SHORTLY AFTER LORD CARNARVON'S 1923 FUNERAL, HIS SON WAS LESS DEFIANT, TELLING OF A VISIT FROM AN UNKNOWN WOMAN.



THE SON OBEYED, FORSAKING HIS DAD FOREVER.

SO WHO KNOWS? SELECTIVE CURSE OR CURIOUS COINCIDENCES? PERHAPS THE PHARAOH TUTANKHAMUN HIMSELF SHOULD HAVE THE FINAL WORD, ALTHOUGH THE WORD IS --













HIS FACE WAS "MARKED BY SMALLPOX, HIS COMPLEXION DARK," JOURDAIN WOULD WRITE, DESCRIBING HIS EXPRESSION AS "VERY EVIL."



"I FELT A REPUGNANCE TO GOING PAST HIM."

WHEN BOTH WOMEN HEARD "RUNNING FOOTSTEPS FROM BEHIND," THEY FOUND THE PATH EMPTY, AND THE STEPS SUDDENLY SILENT.



BUT WHEN THEY TURNED FORWARD, THEY FOUND ANOTHER MAN IN BLACK ABRUPTLY STANDING IN FRONT OF THEM.



HE SEEMED "EXCITED" AS HE DIRECTED THEM ONWARD WITH A "PECULIAR SMILE."

AND WHEN THEY TURNED BACK TO SAY THANKS, HE WAS GONE.

(FOR WHATEVER REASONS, THE WOMEN HAD STILL EXCHANGED NO COMMENTS ON THE SHARED WEIRDNESS.)



THEY SOON PASSED A WOMAN SEATED ON THE GRASS, APPARENTLY SKETCHING. MOBERLEY WAS LATER ABLE TO DESCRIBE THE WOMAN'S OUTMODDED ATTIRE IN DETAIL.



MOBERLEY FURTHER NOTED THAT WHILE "RATHER PRETTY," THE WOMAN'S FACE WAS UNPLEASANT AND "NOT YOUNG."

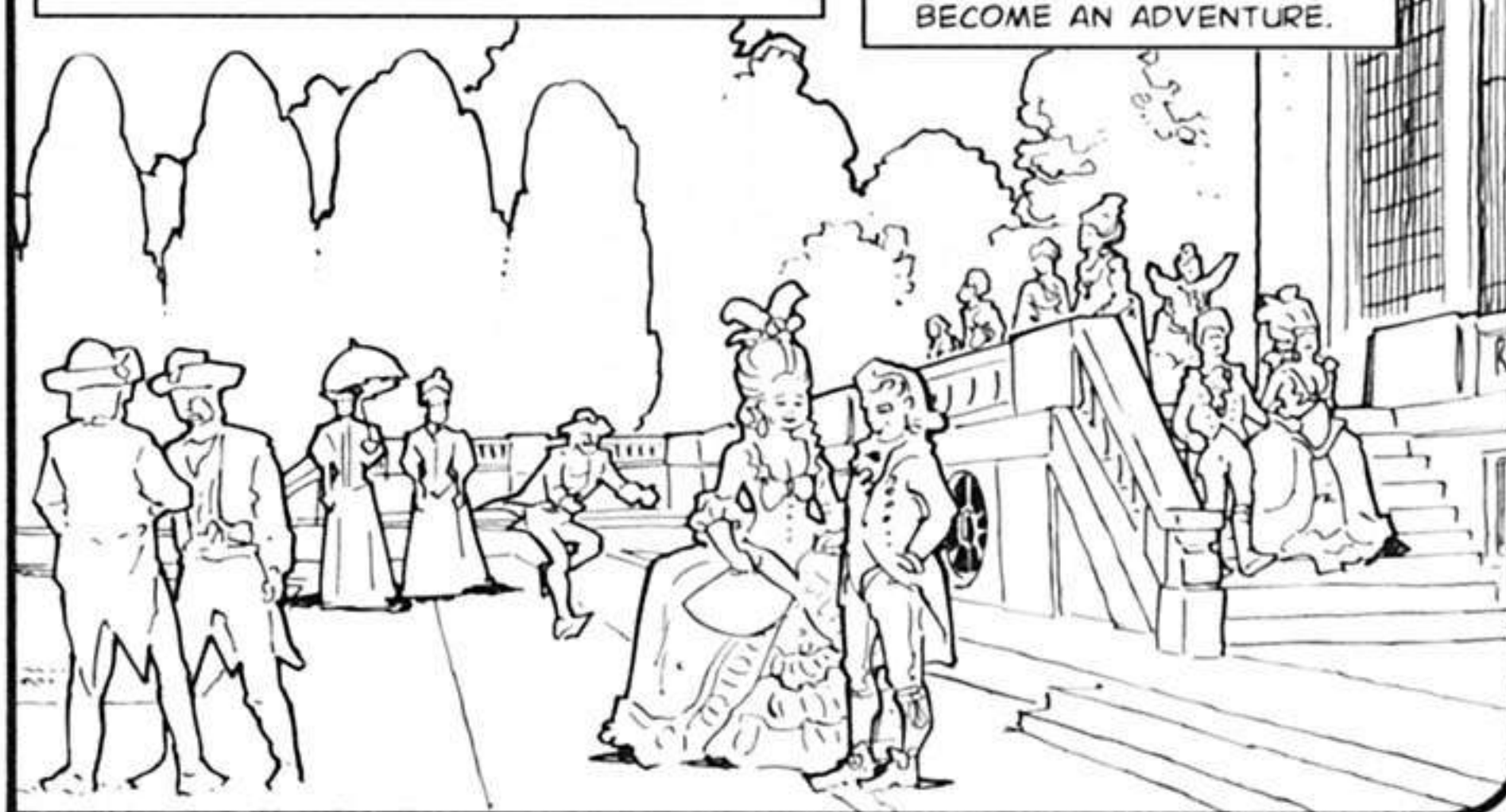


JOURDAIN, IT TURNED OUT, NEVER EVEN SAW HER.

THEY WERE FINALLY GREETED BY A MAN "WITH THE AIR OF A FOOTMAN" WHO OFFERED TO SHOW THEM AROUND.



IT ALL ENDED WHEN THEY FOUND THEMSELVES CAUGHT UP IN A LIVELY WEDDING PARTY AT THE PETIT TRIANON, THEIR SPIRITS NOW BRIGHTENING AS QUICKLY AS THEY HAD GLOOMED.



PERHAPS RELIEVED THAT IT WAS OVER, THEY STILL SAID NOTHING ABOUT THEIR SIMPLE VENTURE WHICH HAD SOMEHOW BECOME AN ADVENTURE.



IT WASN'T UNTIL THE FOLLOWING WEEK, WRITING HER ACCOUNT OF THE DAY, THAT MOBERLEY WONDERED:

MISS JOURDAIN,  
DO YOU THINK THE  
PETIT TRIANON IS  
HAUNTED?

I DO  
INDEED, MISS  
MOBERLEY.

THEY DECIDED TO COMPARE NOTES,  
ONLY THEN LEARNING HOW THEIR PER-  
CEPTIONS MATCHED AND DIFFERED.

MYSTERIOUS MEN IN BLACK, YES—  
BUT A SKETCH-ARTIST WHO LOOKED  
LIKE MARIE ANTOINETTE?

VERSAILLES VILLAGERS HAD REPORTEDLY  
SEEN MARIE ANTOINETTE IN THE SAME  
GARDENS, DRESSED MUCH LIKE THE  
WOMAN SKETCHING. MOBERLEY AND  
JOURDAIN DECIDED TO RETURN TO  
THE SCENE OF THE TIME-CRIME.

ATTEMPTING TO RETRACE THEIR STEPS, THEY FOUND THE  
GARDEN LAYOUT CHANGED, THE KIOSK GONE, SIMILAR-  
BUT-DIFFERENT BUILDINGS, AND A LARGE SHRUB WHERE  
THE WOMAN HAD SKETCHED ON BARE GRASS.

THIS ISN'T  
THE SAME PLACE  
AT ALL!

NOT  
NOW IT  
ISN'T!

THEY ALSO LEARNED OTHER DETAILS—  
THAT TRICORNER HATS, FOR EXAMPLE,  
WERE NOT WORN BY GARDENERS IN 1901.

BUT THEY WERE IMMEDIATELY DISMISSED  
BY SKEPTICS AS DOTTY BRIT DAMES  
HALLUCINATING A ROMANTIC FOLLY--

EVEN THOUGH BOTH WOMEN  
WERE QUITE SOBER AND NO-  
NONSENSE IN THEIR EFFORTS  
TO SOLVE THE MYSTERY.

EVENTUALLY IN 1911, THEY PUBLISHED  
A BOOK ON THEIR EXPERIENCES AND  
SUBSEQUENT INVESTIGATION, WHICH  
ELEANOR SIDGWICK (OF THE SOCIETY  
FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH) FOUND--

MUDDLED.

AN  
ADVENTURE  
IN  
MOBERLEY  
JOURDAIN

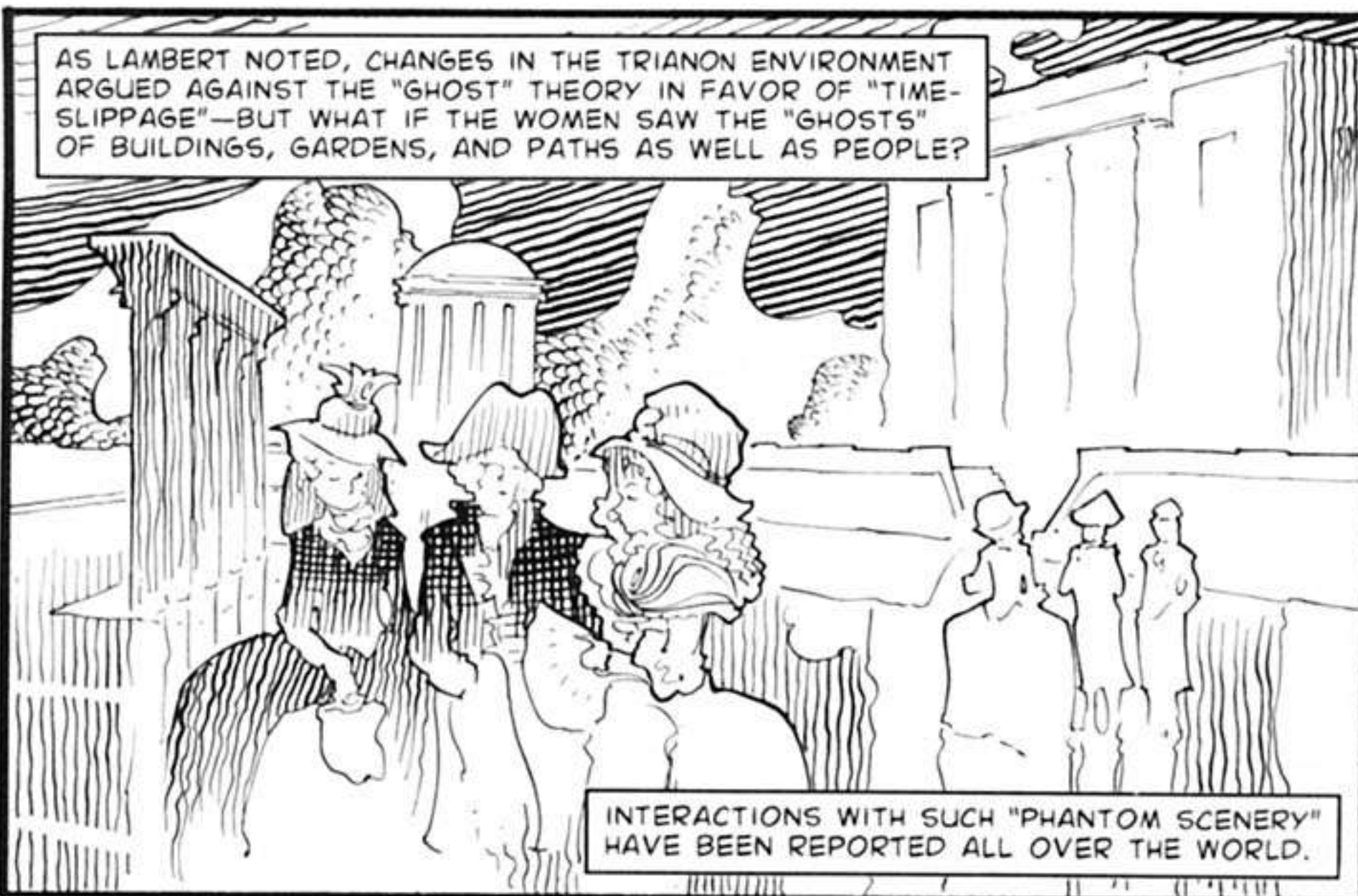
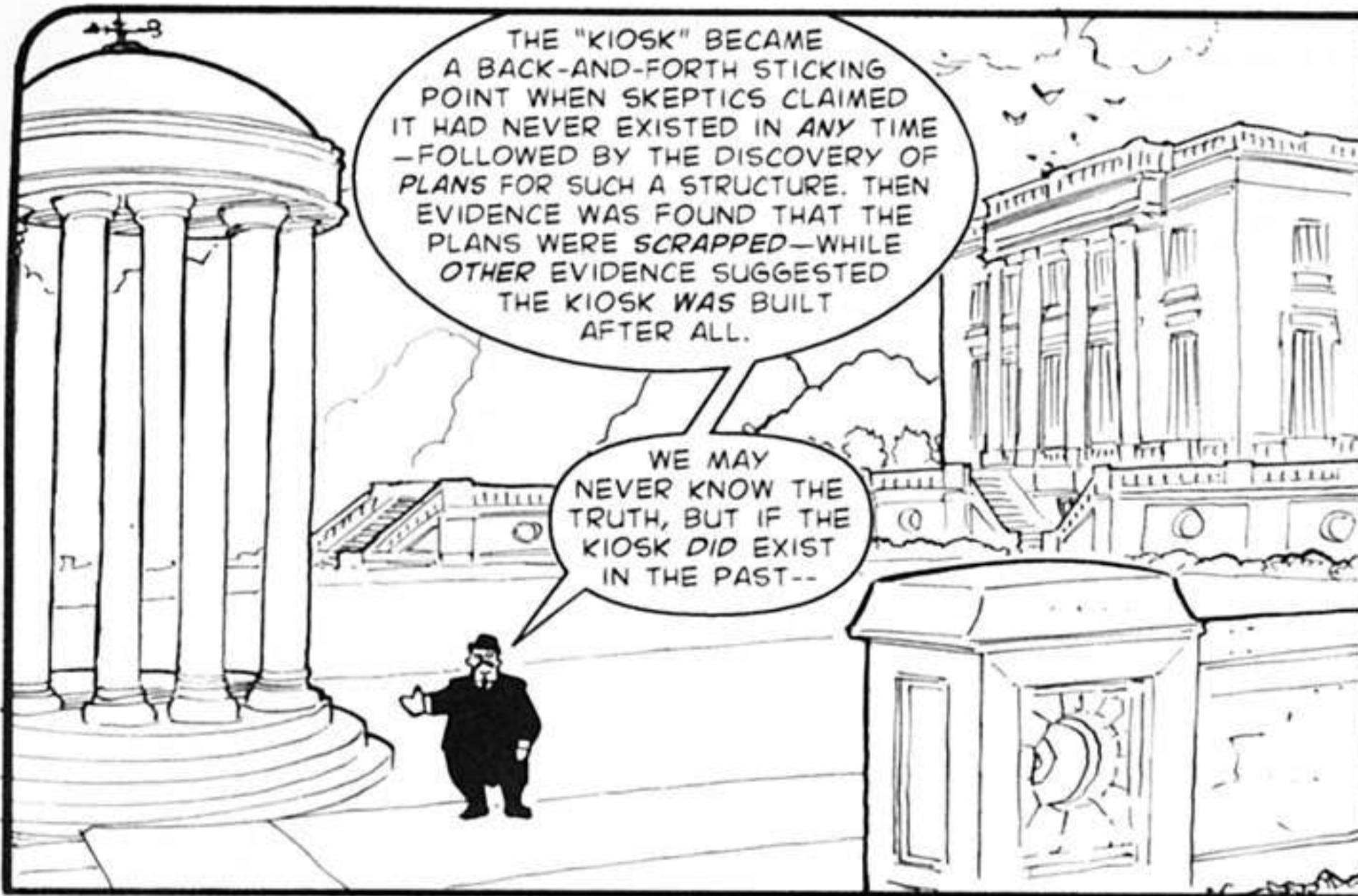
BUT AFTER SIMILAR  
FIGURES IN 1700S GARB WERE  
SEEN BY OTHERS IN 1910 AND 1938,  
RESEARCHER G.W. LAMBERT REINVESTI-  
GATED THE MATTER AND DECIDED THAT  
THEIR EXPERIENCE DID NOT SEEM TO  
BE A GHOSTLY VISITATION BECAUSE  
THEIR DESCRIPTIONS MATCHED THE  
HISTORICAL REALITY OF MARIE  
ANTOINETTE'S 1770.

HAD THE  
WOMEN WALKED  
THROUGH SOME IN-  
VISIBLE TIME-PORTAL,  
LITERALLY STEPPING  
130 YEARS INTO  
THE PAST?

1770

1901







THE FOLLOWING PHENOMENA HAVE BEEN CONFUSED WITH GHOST PHOTOS, YET SEVERAL OF THE IMAGES THAT FOLLOW HAVE *NOTHING* TO DO WITH GHOSTS, AND *NONE* OF THEM IS ON FILM.

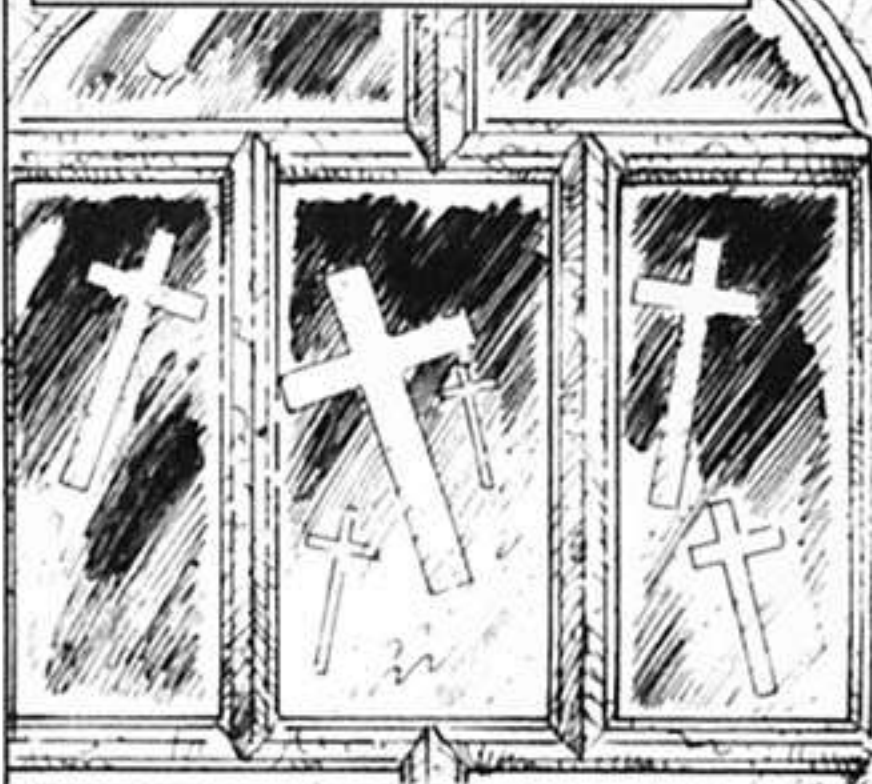
INDEED, SUCH PICTURES EXISTED HUNDREDS OF YEARS BEFORE PHOTOGRAPHY WAS INVENTED. THESE "MAGIC IMAGES" MIGHT BEST BE CALLED--

# MAGICICS



UNEXPLAINED SCORCHMARKS ON CHURCH DOORS--SUCH AS THESE ON BRITAIN'S BLYTHBURGH CHURCH--HAVE LONG BEEN SEEN AS SIGNS OF THE DEVIL'S FRUSTRATION--

--WHILE SPONTANEOUS IMAGES OF CROSSES IN GLASS HAVE BEEN TAKEN AS SIGNS OF GOD'S DELIVERANCE.



SUCH IMAGES WERE PREVALANT IN EUROPE AFTER THE FRANCO-PRUSSIAN WAR, AND "COULD NOT BE WASHED OFF, PROVING RESISTANT EVEN TO ACID."

THIS IMAGE, BEARING A STRIKING RESEMBLANCE TO THE MADONNA, APPEARED ON NOTHING BUT AIR, OUTLINED BY TREE BRANCHES AND THE SIDE OF A CHURCH IN METZ, FRANCE.



IN THE VOSGES AREA OF FRANCE, THE ABBÉ GUENIOT WAS SUMMONED TO WITNESS A STRANGE FALL OF HAILSTONES ON MAY 26, 1907.



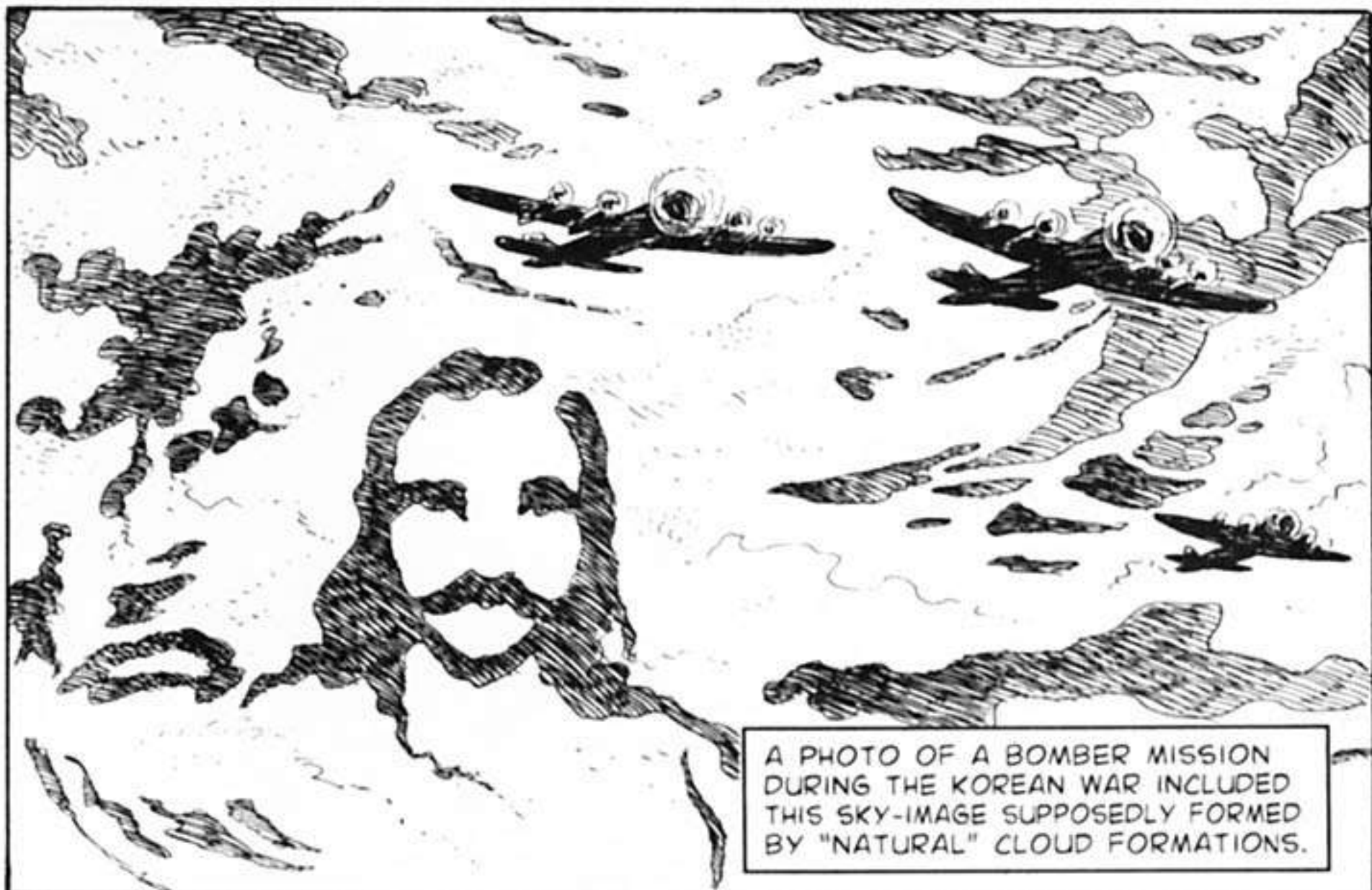
THE HAILSTONES FELL AS IF MATERIALIZING IN MIDAIR.

BEFORE THE ALMOST PERFECT SPHERES MELTED, WITNESSES BEHELD INCREDIBLE IMAGES STAMPED INTO THE ICE.



IT WAS LIKE THE VIRGIN OF THE HERMITS.

"THE OUTLINES OF THE IMAGES WERE...VERY BOLDLY DRAWN."



A PHOTO OF A BOMBER MISSION DURING THE KOREAN WAR INCLUDED THIS SKY-IMAGE SUPPOSEDLY FORMED BY "NATURAL" CLOUD FORMATIONS.



IN AUGUST 1971, MARIA GOMEZ PEREIRA WAS ASTONISHED TO FIND A STRANGE MARK SPONTANEOUSLY APPEARING ON THE STONE FLOOR OF HER KITCHEN IN BELMEZ, SPAIN.



THE MARK GRADUALLY RESOLVED INTO THE IMAGE OF A STARING FACE WHICH WAS DESCRIBED AS "SAD AND HAUNTING" WITH AN "ANGUISHED EXPRESSION."



IT WAS WASHED OFF— ONLY TO FORM AGAIN.

AFTER THE AUTHORITIES WERE CALLED, WORKMEN REMOVED AND REPLACED THE STUBBORNLY-STAINED SECTION OF FLOOR.



BUT THE SAME FACE REAPPEARED ON THE NEW FLOOR—JOINED IN THE FOLLOWING MONTHS BY FOUR OTHERS, ALL SIMILARLY TORMENTED.



MYSTERIOUS AND DISTURBING SOUNDS BEGAN TO FILL THE FARMHOUSE, INCLUDING THE VOICE OF A CHILD.

INVESTIGATORS THEORIZED THAT THE FACES WERE CREATED BY MARIA HERSELF, "MENTALLY IMPRINTING" THEM ON THE STONE.



WHEN IT WAS DISCOVERED THAT THE FARMHOUSE HAD BEEN BUILT ATOP AN OLD CEMETERY, HUMAN REMAINS WERE EXCAVATED FROM THE SITE--



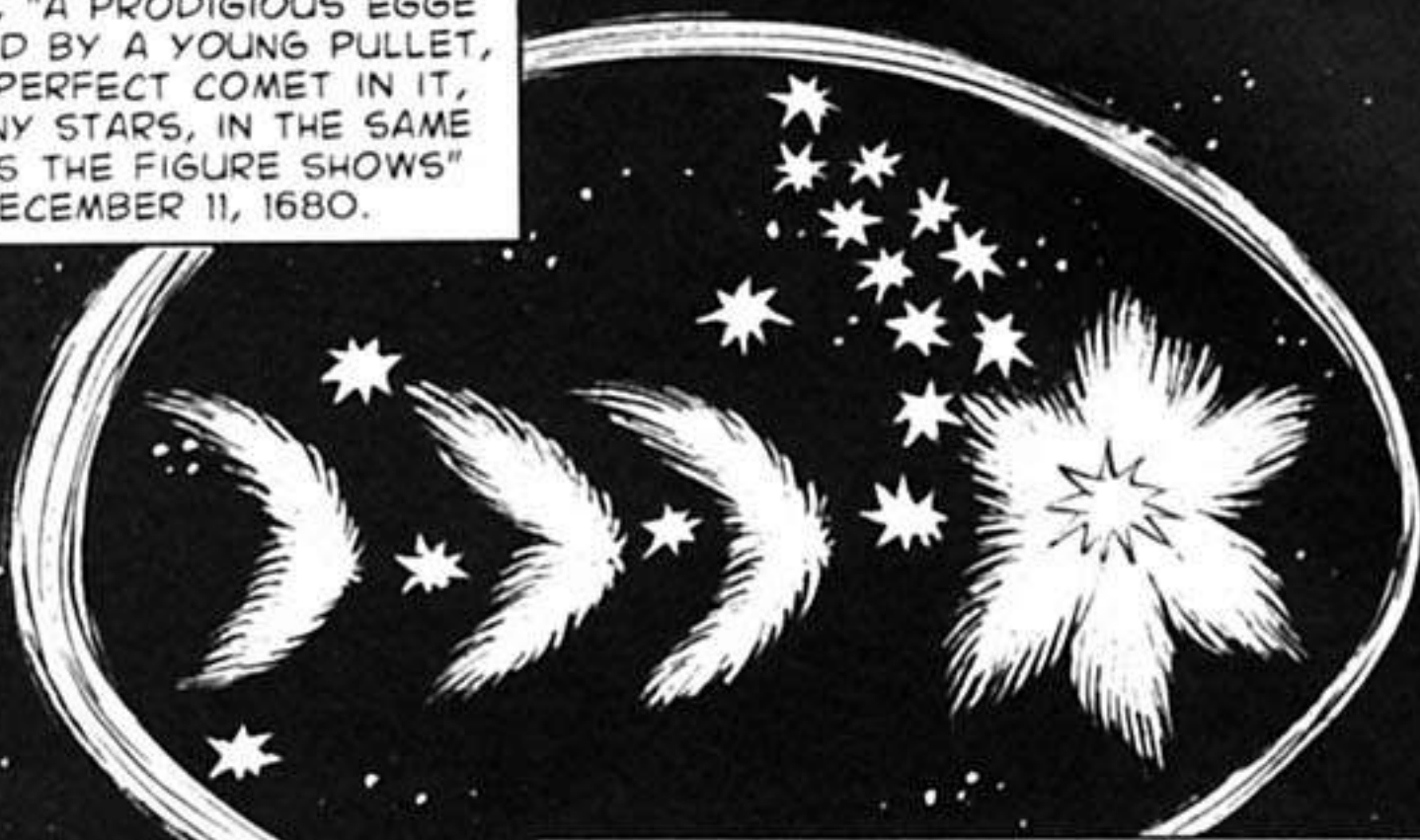
--INCLUDING THE SKELETONS OF FIVE VICTIMS MURDERED IN THE 17TH CENTURY—ONE OF WHOM WAS A CHILD.



IN 17TH CENTURY ROME, CITIZENS MARVELED AT THE "STRANGE AND WONDERFUL" COMET WHICH STREAKED THROUGH THE NIGHT SKY DURING DECEMBER, 1680.

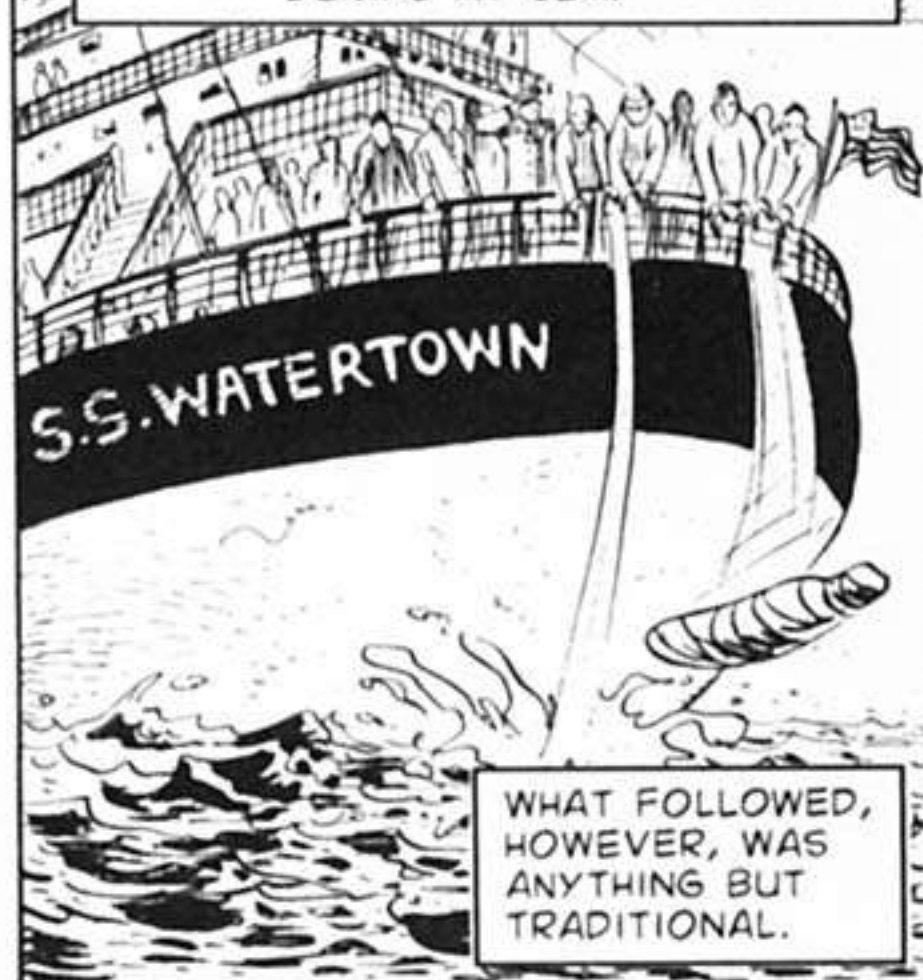


IN A BIZARRE SYNCHRONICITY, A BRITISH NEWS ACCOUNT REPORTED, "A PRODIGIOUS EGGE WAS LAID BY A YOUNG PULLET, WITH A PERFECT COMET IN IT, AND MANY STARS, IN THE SAME FORM AS THE FIGURE SHOWS" ON DECEMBER 11, 1680.



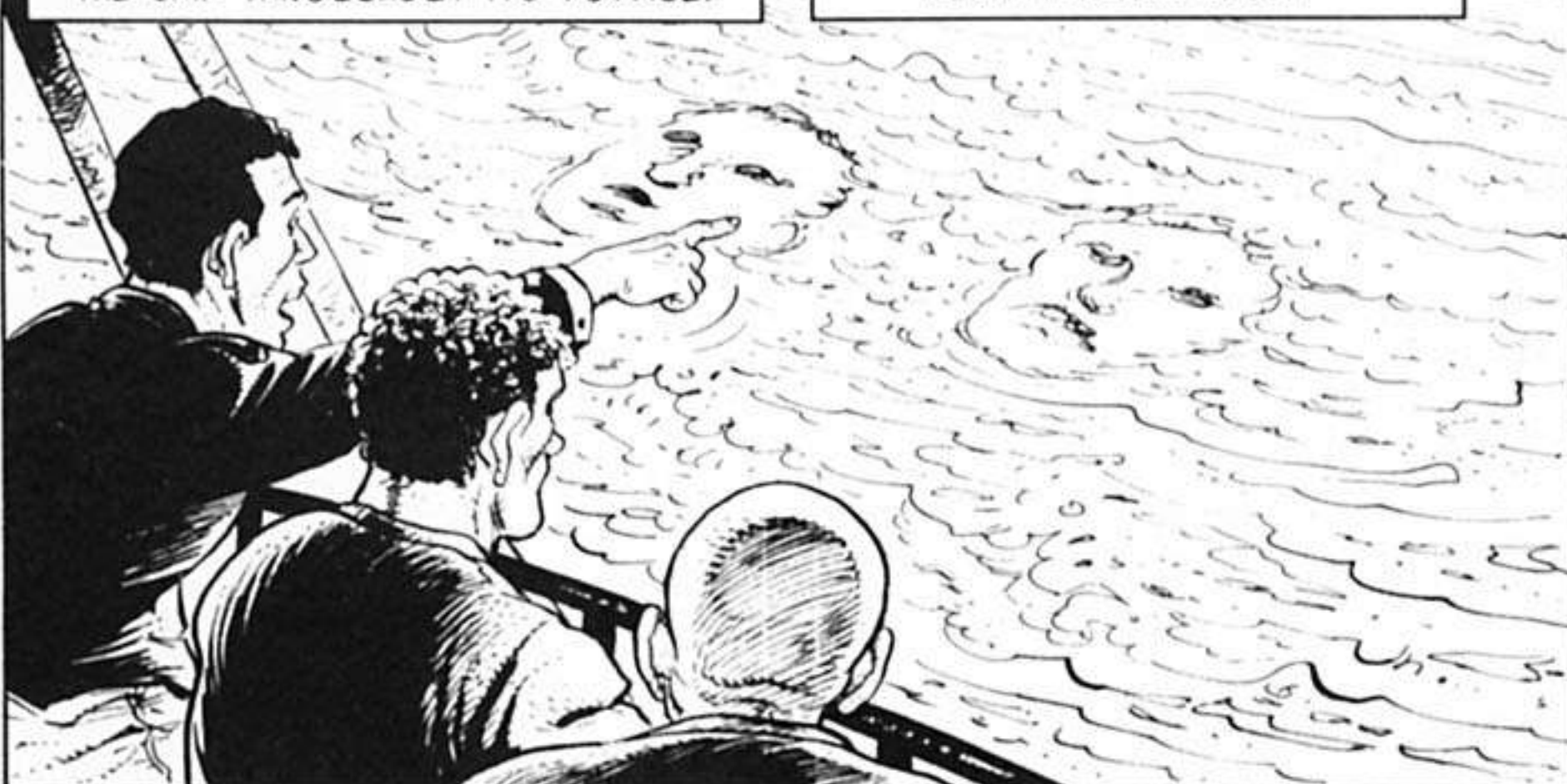
THE STORY SPECIFIED THAT THE IMAGE WAS NOT ON THE OUTER SHELL, BUT "WITHIN THE EGGE, MOST CLEARLY EXPREST"—MAKING THE DIAGRAM, PRESUMABLY, A HARD-BOILED CROSS-SECTION.

WHEN CREWMEN JAMES COURTNEY AND MICHAEL MEEHAN DIED ABOARD AN OIL TANKER ON DECEMBER 4, 1924, THEY WERE GIVEN A TRADITIONAL BURIAL AT SEA.



WHAT FOLLOWED, HOWEVER, WAS ANYTHING BUT TRADITIONAL.

IT BEGAN THE NEXT DAY, WHEN THE FACES OF COURTNEY AND MEEHAN TOOK SHAPE IN THE SWELLING SEA ITSELF, DISAPPEARING AND REAPPEARING BUT ALWAYS KEEPING PERFECT PACE WITH THE SHIP THROUGHOUT ITS VOYAGE.



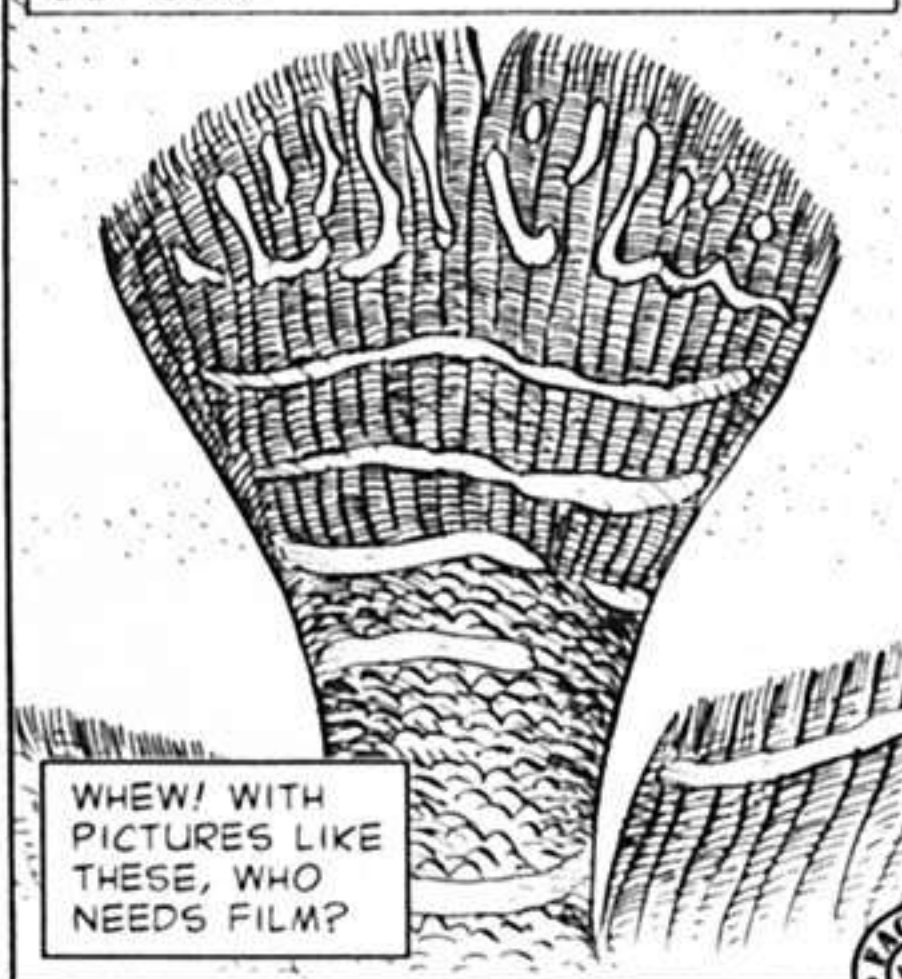
SEEN BY ALL OF THE REMAINING CREWMEMBERS, THE IMAGES WERE EVEN PHOTOGRAPHED, ALTHOUGH THE GHOSTLY FACES WERE APPARENT IN ONLY ONE OF THE SIX NEGATIVES EXPOSED.

IN 1923, TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AFTER THE DEATH OF OXFORD'S DEAN LIDDELL, HIS IMAGE SPONTANEOUSLY APPEARED ON A WALL OF CHRIST CHURCH.



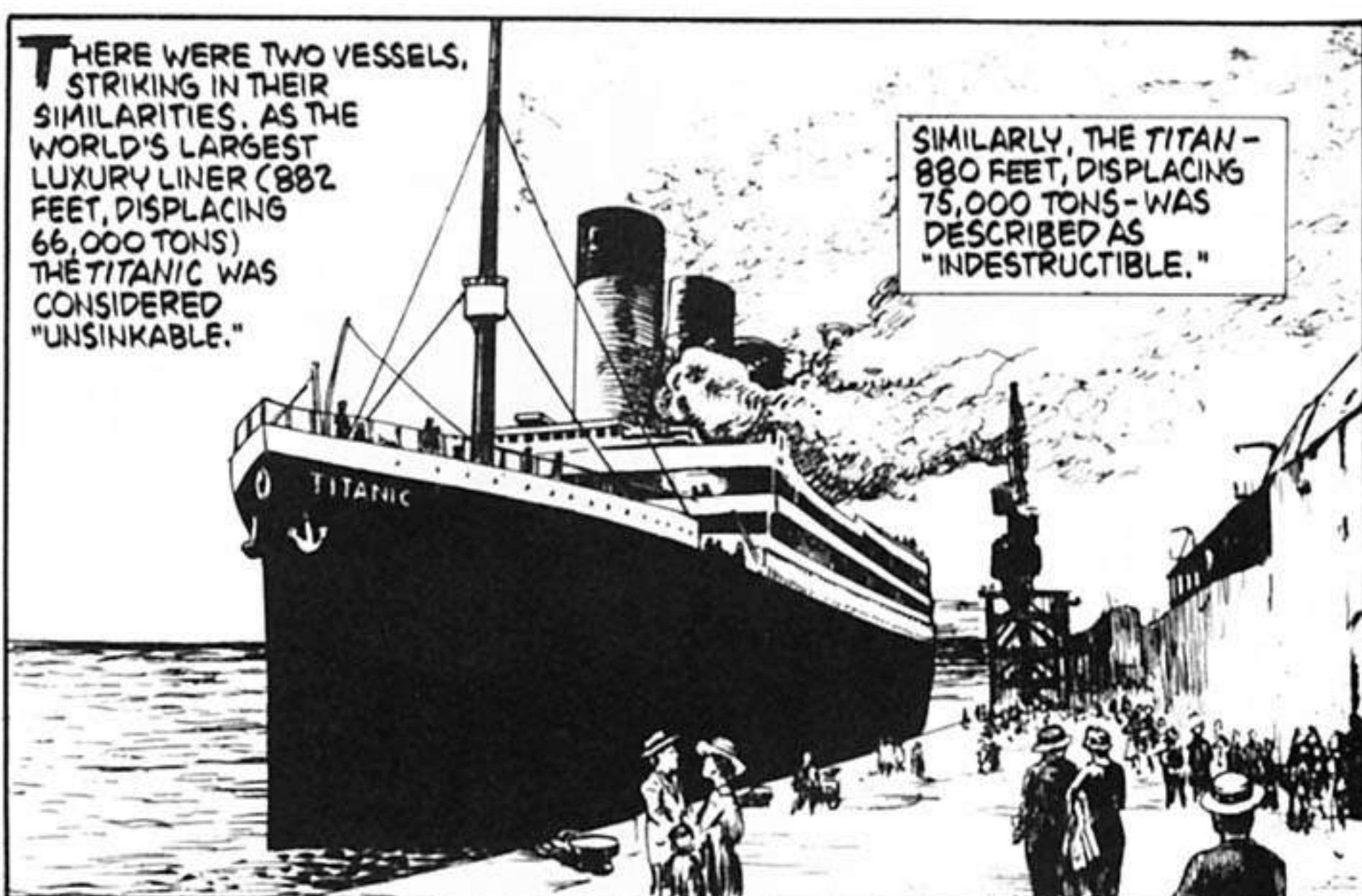
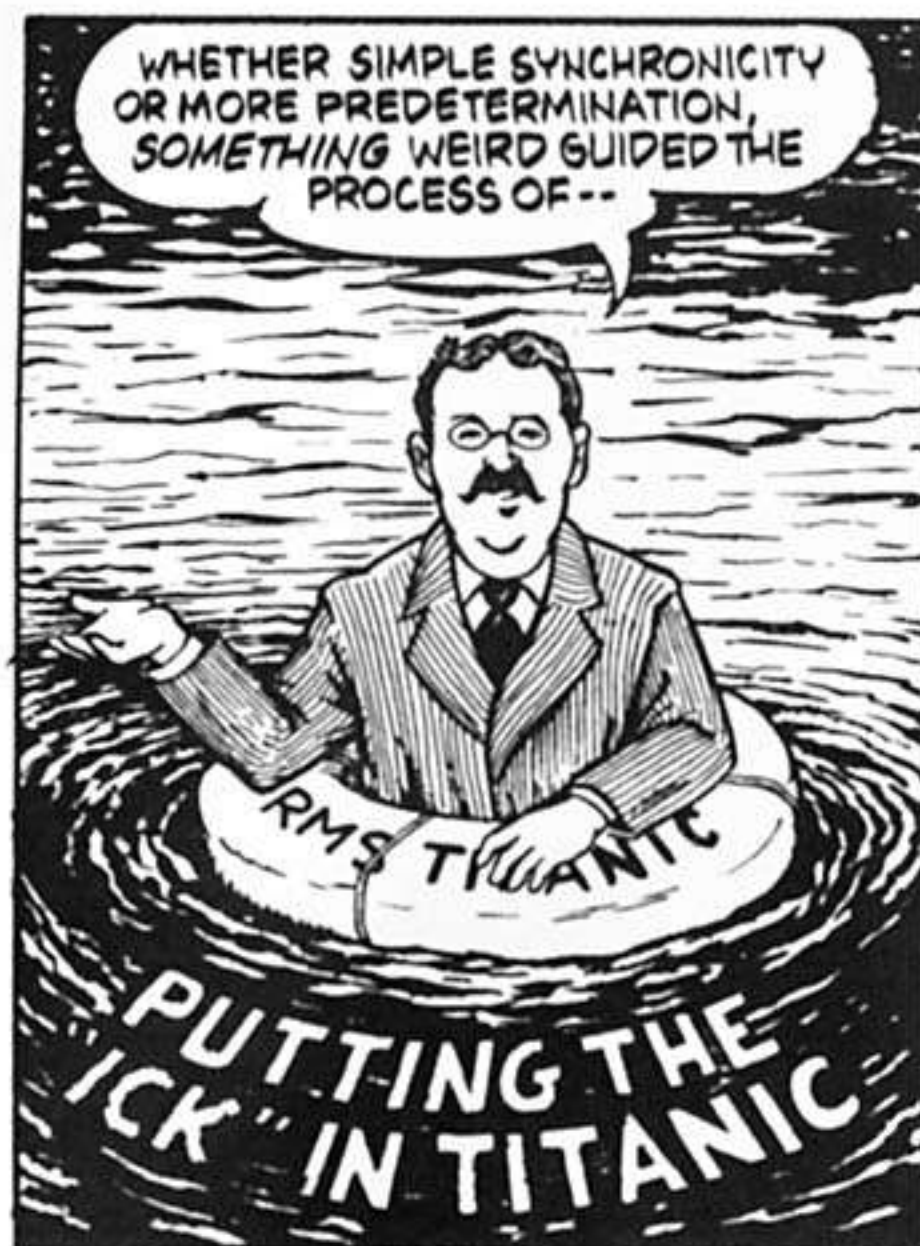
IT WAS STILL THERE THREE YEARS LATER, WHEN CASSELL'S WEEKLY REPORTED: "IT IS AS IF DRAWN BY THE HAND OF A MASTER ARTIST, YET IT IS NOT ETCHED NOR SCULPTED, BUT IT IS PLAIN FOR ALL EYES TO SEE."

AND FINALLY, THE SCALE COLORATION ON THE TAIL OF THIS BUTTERFLY FISH SPELLS OUT A PERFECT SENTENCE IN ARABIC SCRIPT: "THERE IS NO GOD BUT GOD."



WHEW! WITH PICTURES LIKE THESE, WHO NEEDS FILM?











TWICE MORE OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL YEARS, THE CHASE FAMILY CRYPT WAS FOUND IN SIMILAR DISARRAY, ITS HEAVY CASKETS IMPOSSIBLY SCATTERED AS IF BY SOME FURIOUS FORCE.



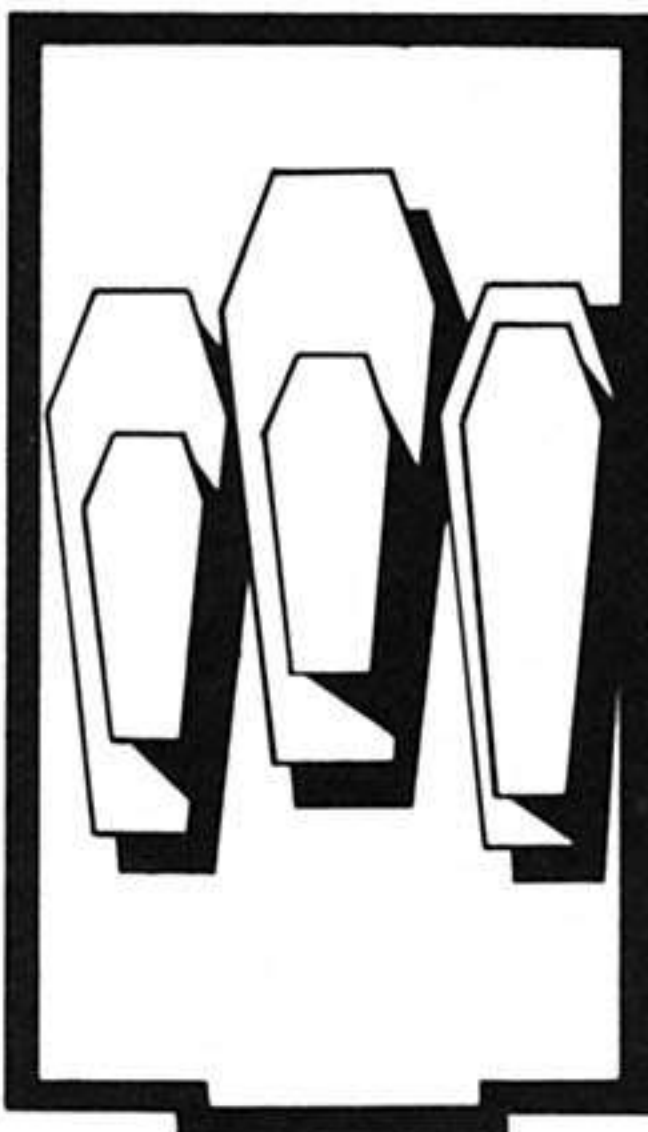
THE "MOVING COFFINS OF BARBADOS" SOON BECAME NOTORIOUS AND TOURISTS FLOCKED TO THE TOMB. UNSURPRISINGLY, A MOB OF MACABRE ONLOOKERS ATTENDED THE FUNERAL OF THOMASINA CLARKE ON JULY 17, 1819.



AMONG THEM WAS THE VISCOUNT COMBERMERE, GOVERNOR OF BARBADOS, WHO HAD BEEN OUTRAGED BY PREVIOUS DESECRATIONS.



BUT IT WAS CLEAR THAT SOMEONE OR SOMETHING DID NOT AGREE—FOR THE CHASE COFFINS, LEFT NEATLY ARRANGED WHEN THE VAULT WAS LAST SEALED, WERE AGAIN STREWN ABOUT IN CHAOTIC DISORDER.



BEFORE  
AFTER



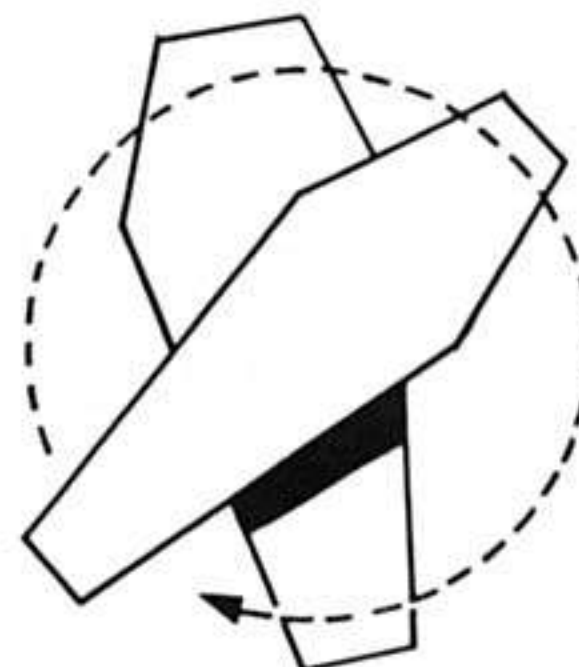
OF THE "SCIENTIFIC" EXPLANATIONS, FLOATING WAS MOST FAVORED—EVEN THOUGH THERE WAS NO WATER DAMAGE IN THE VAULT, NOR ANY OTHER EVIDENCE OF FLOODING ELSEWHERE IN THE GRAVEYARD.



AS FOR EARTHQUAKES, IT'S HARD TO IMAGINE SEISMIC ACTIVITY SELECTIVE ENOUGH TO MOVE THE CHASE COFFINS WITHOUT AFFECTING THE VAULT ITSELF—LET ALONE OTHER COFFINS AND CRYPTS.



WRITER ERIC FRANK RUSSELL SUGGESTED THAT THE LEAD COFFINS WERE "SPUN AROUND BY SOME FORCE GRAVITATIONAL, GYROSCOPIC, ELECTROMAGNETIC OR GOODNESS KNOWS WHAT."



BUT WHAT INDEED?



WHEN SCIENCE FAILED, SOME WERE PREDICTABLY QUICK TO BLAME "VAMPIRES AND WEREWOLVES."



WISH THEY'D ADD THE COFFIN-TOSS TO THE OLYMPICS!

YEAH, BUT IT'D HAVE TO BE AN EVENING EVENT!

SHERLOCK HOLMES CREATOR SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE SUGGESTED--

SUPERNATURAL POWERS RESIDING IN THE BODIES OF THE PREMATURELY DEAD?



ELEMENTARY, MY DEAR DOYLE-DAD!

BUT AUTHOR GEORGE HUNT REJECTED "MALEVOLENT SPIRITS" AND PROPOSED "GAS FROM DECOMPOSING BODIES."



MUST HAVE BEEN SOMETHING I ATE.

MOST INTRIGUING IS THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE COFFINS NEVER ACTUALLY BUDGED, MAKING THE WHOLE AFFAIR NOTHING BUT AN ELABORATE MASONIC HOAX--EVEN THOUGH NATHAN LUCAS CLAIMED IN 1820: "IT HAPPENED AND I WAS AN EYEWITNESS."



BUT LUCAS ALSO STATED: "I EXAMINED THE WALLS, THE ARCH AND EVERY PART OF THE VAULT AND A MASON STRUCK EVERY PART WITH HIS HAMMER AND ALL WAS SOLID"--



--WHICH WRITER JOE NICKELL LIKENS TO VARIOUS ARCAINE, MASONIC RITUALS, WHICH CONTAIN REFERENCES TO "THE SOUND OF THE HAMMER" AND A "CURIOUSLY ARCHED SECRET VAULT OF SILENCE AND DARKNESS."



THIS MASONIC HOAX THEORY GAINS SOME CREDENCE FROM THE ALLEGED OPENING OF A DIFFERENT TOMB, ALSO ON BARBADOS, IN 1843.



HIRED BY FREEMASONS WISHING TO PAY THEIR RESPECTS TO ALEXANDER IRVINE, WORKERS SUPPOSEDLY BROKE THROUGH THE BRICKED-UP ENTRANCE TO HIS TOMB--



--ONLY TO ENCOUNTER FURTHER RESISTANCE.

ONE COFFIN HAD SOMEHOW BLOCKED THE ENTRANCE FROM WITHIN, WHILE IRVINE (A FREEMASON FOUNDER) AND HIS COFFIN WERE SUPPOSEDLY MISSING, APPARENTLY TRANSPORTED--AS THE MASONS CLAIMED--TO SOME MYSTICAL HIGHER PLANE.





BUT IF BOTH MOVING-COFFIN ACCOUNTS WERE INDEED NOTHING BUT MASONIC TALL TALES, THEN BARBADOS GOVERNOR COMBERMERE WAS APPARENTLY A WILLING ACCOMPLICE.

LET'S TAKE ANOTHER LOOK AT THE CHASE TOMB IN 1819...



ONCE AGAIN THE COFFINS WERE PUT BACK IN THEIR PROPER PLACES, BUT THIS TIME COMBERMERE ORDERED THE TOMB FLOOR COVERED WITH A LAYER OF FINE SAND.

IF VANDALS OR GHOULS ENTER THIS CRYPT, I WANT THEM TO LEAVE FOOTMARKS!

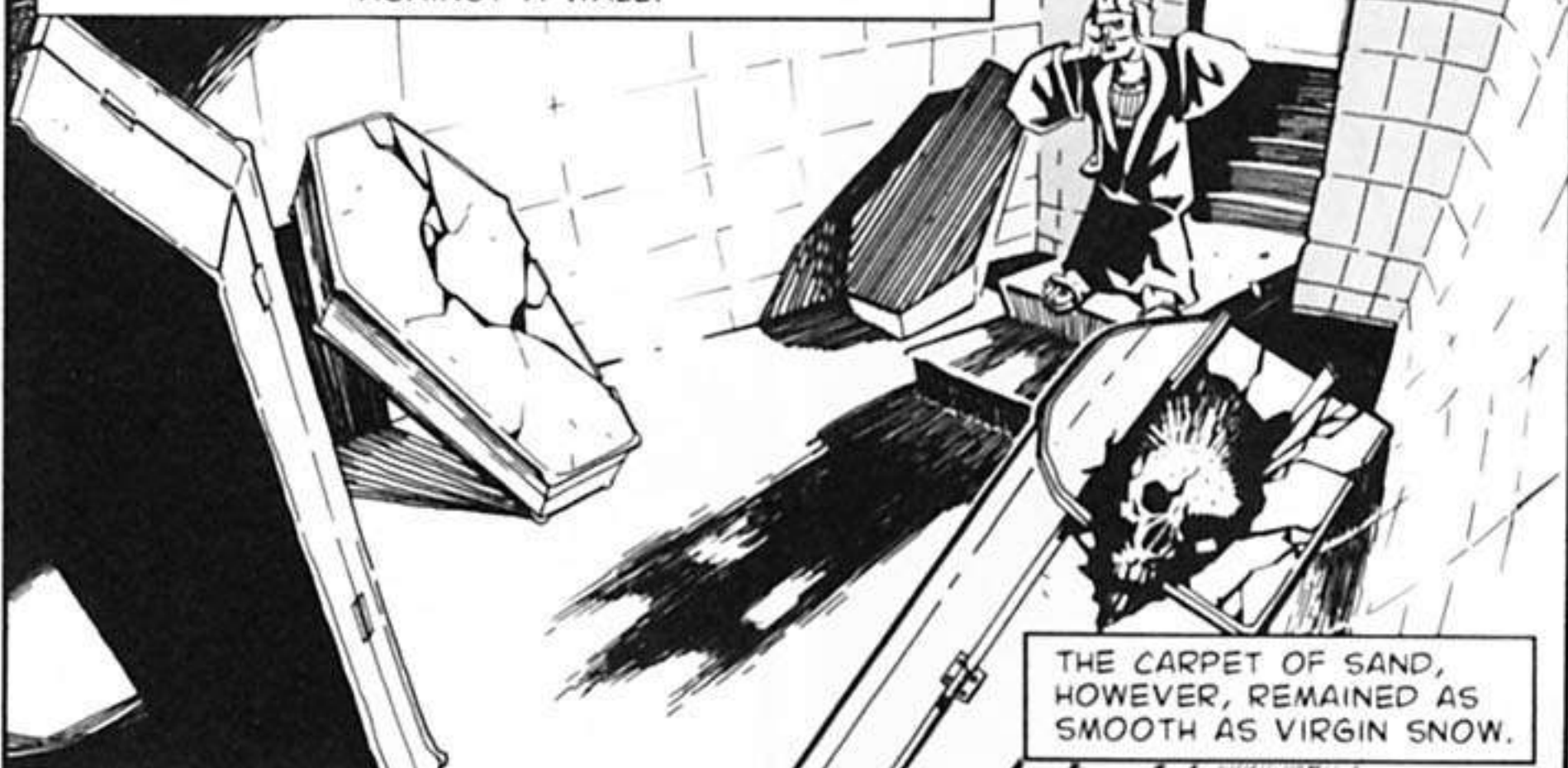


AND AS A FURTHER PRECAUTION, HE IMPRESSED HIS PERSONAL SEAL (AS WELL AS OTHERS) INTO THE FRESH CEMENT AROUND THE CAPSTONE.



MY TOMB! NOBODY COMES IN!

NINE MONTHS LATER, WITH THE SEALS STILL INTACT BUT WITHOUT WAITING FOR ANOTHER FUNERAL, THE CRYPT WAS REOPENED FOR INSPECTION—AND WAS AGAIN IN CHAOS, ONE COFFIN NOW SHATTERED AND ANOTHER DAMAGED BY APPARENTLY VIOLENT IMPACT AGAINST A WALL.



THE CARPET OF SAND, HOWEVER, REMAINED AS SMOOTH AS VIRGIN SNOW.

AS USUAL, THE CORPSES HAD NOT BEEN MOLESTED—JUST THE COFFINS—BUT COMBERMERE NEVERTHELESS THREW IN THE TOWEL--



--REMOVING THE DECEASED FOR INTERMENT ELSEWHERE AND ORDERING THE EMPTY TOMB PERMANENTLY SEALED.

THERE WILL BE NO MORE BURIALS HERE!

AND TO THIS DAY NO ONE KNOWS HOW OR EVEN IF THE COFFINS OF BARBADOS ACTUALLY MOVED—OR WHO CARVED THE LARGE QUESTION MARK INTO THEIR FORMER CRYPT--



--BUT A GOOD GUESS WOULD HEDGE ALL BETS.

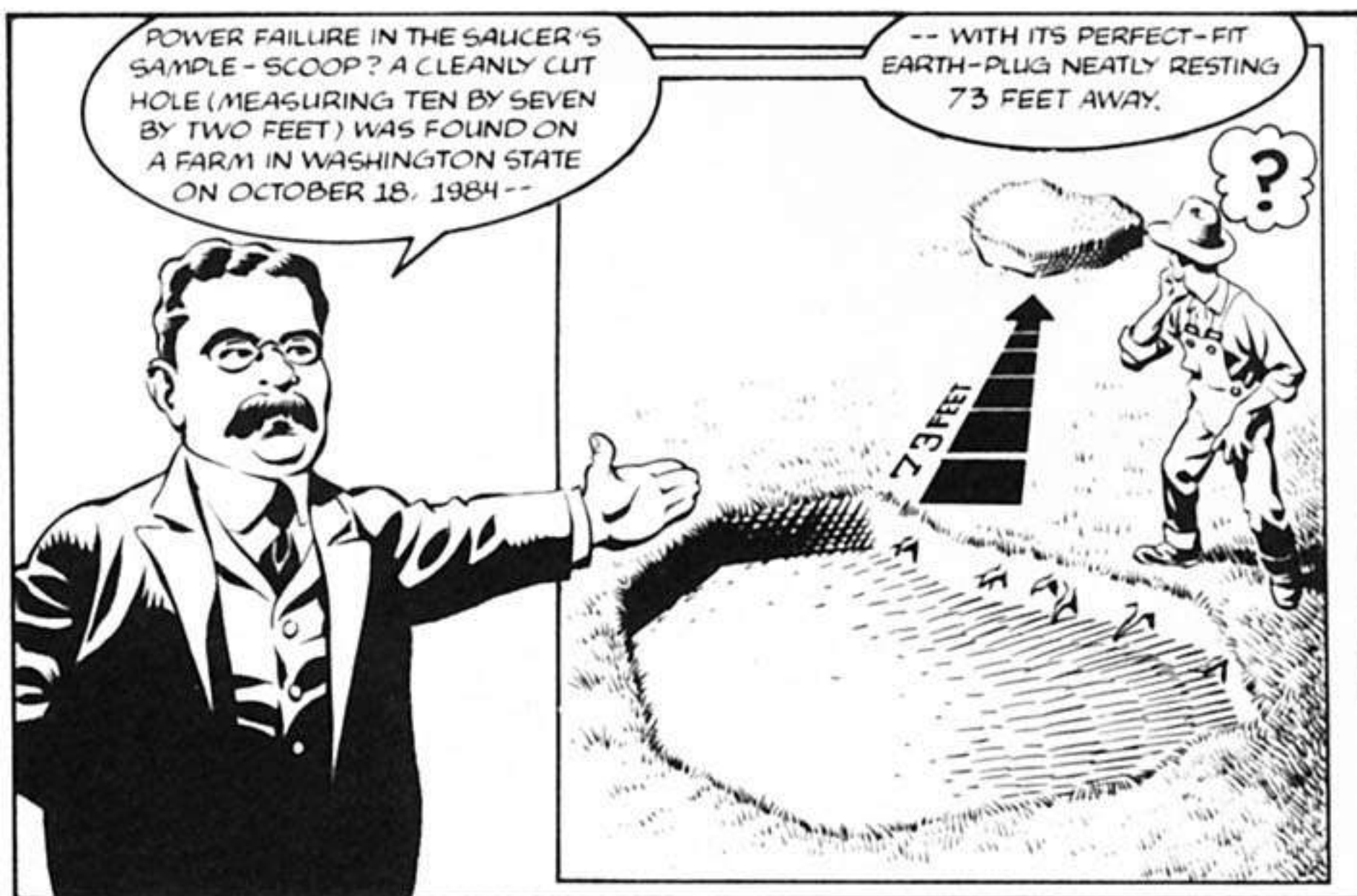


TIME FOR A FEW MORE QUEASY GIGGLES FROM THE LAND OF BIZARRE OCCURRENCES - BECAUSE, AS EVER, THE JOKE'S ON US!

## THE COSMIC TRICKSTER RETURNS

FAMILY RESEMBLANCE? COMPARE THIS THIRD CENTURY BC MASK (DESCRIBED AS AN "ABSTRACT ANIMAL HEAD") FOUND AT A CELTIC SITE IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC--

-- WITH WHITLEY STRIEBER'S ALIEN ABDUCTOR.



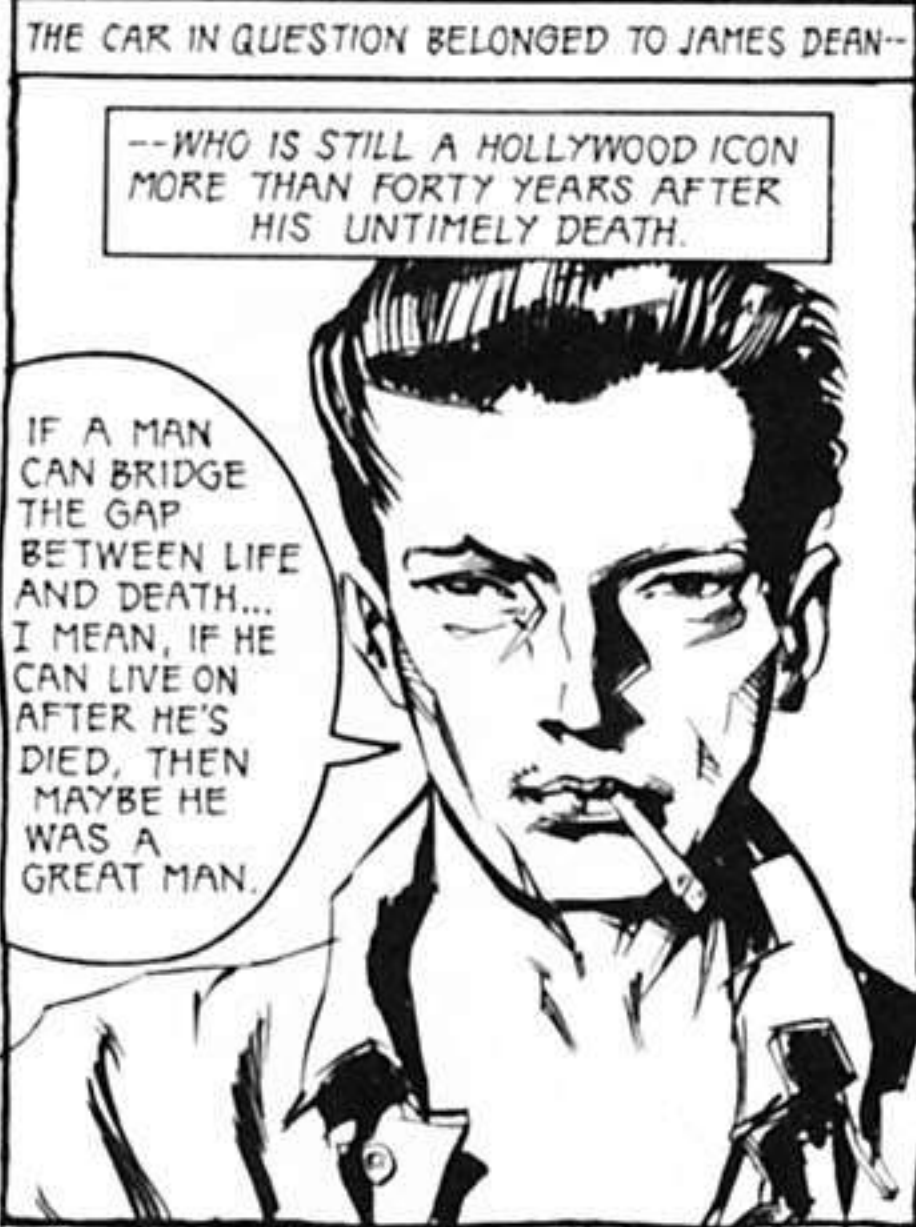




IF HOUSES ARE HAUNTED BY THEIR MURDERED OCCUPANTS, CAN DEAD DRIVERS HAUNT THE CARS THEY DIED IN?

MAYBE, AS WE'LL SEE IN THIS CASE OF THE SEEMINGLY CURSED--

# CAR WITHOUT A REBEL



IF A MAN CAN BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN LIFE AND DEATH... I MEAN, IF HE CAN LIVE ON AFTER HE'S DIED, THEN MAYBE HE WAS A GREAT MAN.

THE CAR IN QUESTION BELONGED TO JAMES DEAN--

--WHO IS STILL A HOLLYWOOD ICON MORE THAN FORTY YEARS AFTER HIS UNTIMELY DEATH.



EVEN THOUGH HE STARRED IN ONLY THREE MOVIES, DEAN HAS BECOME THE OBJECT OF CULT WORSHIP.



WHILE STILL ON THE SET OF HIS LAST MOVIE, "GIANT," DEAN FILMED A CAUTIONARY PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT:

YOU KNOW, I USED TO FLY AROUND QUITE A BIT ON THE HIGHWAYS...



I TOOK UNNECESSARY CHANCES, BUT NOW WHEN I DRIVE, I'M EXTRA CAUTIOUS. I DON'T HAVE THE URGE TO SPEED.

SO TAKE IT EASY WHEN YOU DRIVE. THE LIFE YOU SAVE MIGHT BE MINE.



SHORTLY AFTER SPEAKING THESE WORDS OF WISDOM, ON SEPTEMBER 30, 1955, DEAN JUMPED INTO HIS NEW PORSCHE 550 SPIDER AND HIT THE HIGHWAY AT 85 MPH.

DO AS I SAY, KIDS, NOT AS I DO!



EN ROUTE TO THE SALINAS CAR RACES, DEAN WAS STOPPED FOR A SPEEDING CITATION, THEN SPED ON--AND, AT 5:50 PM, HE CRASHED INTO A FORD DRIVEN BY ONE DONALD TURNUPSEED.

THE 24-YEAR-OLD DEAN FULFILLED THE MANY PREMONITIONS OF EARLY DEATH HE HAD VOICED TO FRIENDS.





NOT ONLY HAD DEAN PREDICTED HIS DEATH IN REAL LIFE, BUT IN "REBEL WITHOUT A CAUSE" HE SPOKE THESE IMMORTAL WORDS:

YOU KNOW SOMETHING--? I NEVER FIGURED I'D LIVE TO SEE EIGHTEEN



"THERE WAS A SENSE OF DOOM TO JIMMY," SAID ONE FRIEND. THE PUBLIC AGREED.



TWO OF HIS THREE FILMS WERE RELEASED AFTER HE'D GONE SOMEWHERE EAST OF EDEN, CREATING A POST-HUMOUS SENSATION. HOLLYWOOD'S BIGGEST STAR WASN'T AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEWS.



DEAN INSPIRED AN INSTANT NECROLATRY. SOME FANS TRIED TO JOIN THEIR IDOL BY SLEEPING ON HIS GRAVE, OR EVEN COMMITTING SUICIDE.

JAMES B. DEAN  
1931-1955

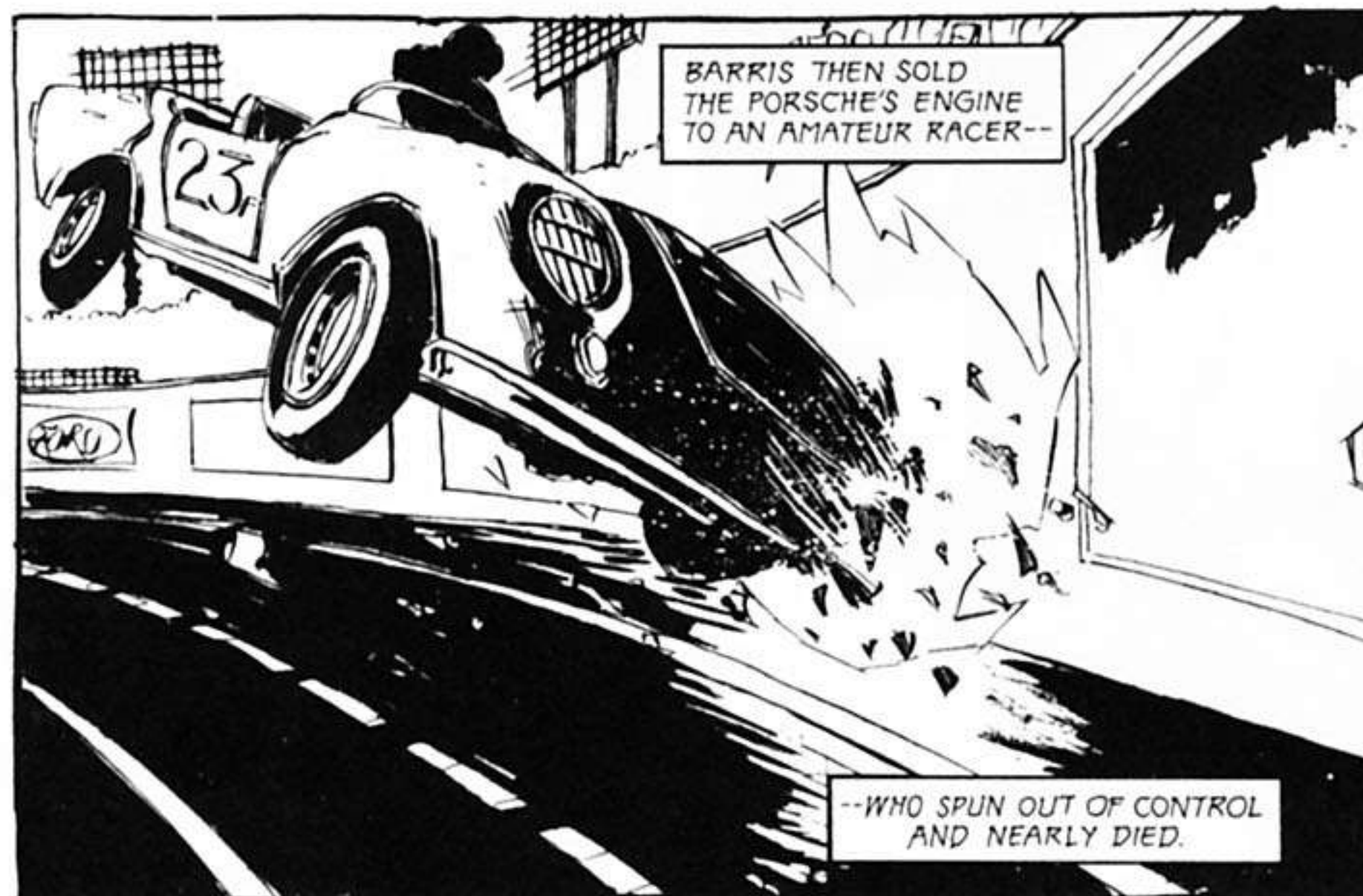


MEANWHILE, THE VEHICLE OF HIS DEATH (AND CELLULOID IMMORTALITY) WAS CARVING ITS OWN DOOM-LADEN LEGEND.



WHEN CAR BUFF GEORGE BARRIS PURCHASED THE CRUMPLED WRECK, IT PROMPTLY SLIPPED FROM ITS TOW TRUCK AND BROKE A MECHANIC'S LEG.

\*\*\*! DAMN THING'S GOT A LIFE OF ITS OWN!



BARRIS THEN SOLD THE PORSCHE'S ENGINE TO AN AMATEUR RACER--

--WHO SPUN OUT OF CONTROL AND NEARLY DIED.



THE JINX CONTINUED WHEN ANOTHER RACE CAR GOT TWO OF THE PORSCHE'S TIRES.

THIS DRIVER ACTUALLY DID DIE -- WHEN THE TIRES BLEW OUT SIMULTANEOUSLY.





AND WHEN THE DEATH-CAR'S CRUMPLED FRAME WAS SENT ON DISPLAY TO PROMOTE HIGH-WAY SAFETY--

LOOK OUT!

--IT BROKE ITS MOUNTINGS AND INJURED A TEEN'S HIP.



ANOTHER FATALITY OCCURRED IN A MULTI-CAR PILE-UP WHILE THE DERELICT PORSCHE WAS BEING LOADED ONTO ITS TOUR TRUCK.



THE SAME TRUCK THEN SUFFERED UNEXPLAINED BRAKE LOSS, SWERVED OUT OF CONTROL AND SLAMMED INTO A STOREFRONT.



NEARLY A MILLION TICKETS WERE SOLD WHEN THE WRECK WAS PUT ON GHOULISH EXHIBIT IN A CARNIVAL. PIECES OF THE TWISTED, BLOODSTAINED HULK WERE PRIED OFF AS MACABRE SOUVENIRS --



--UNTIL THE REMAINS ABRUPTLY FELL APART INTO ELEVEN PIECES.

WHOA!

THE TOUR ENDED.



THEN, SOMEHOW, DURING THE RETURN TRAIN TRIP TO HOLLYWOOD --

--THE ELEVEN PIECES OF JAMES DEAN'S DEATH-CAR MYSTERIOUSLY VANISHED.



DOOMED CAR AND DEAD DRIVER WERE BOTH GONE NOW, PERHAPS REUNITED AT LAST AS COOL GHOST-RIDERS IN THE SKY.

WHATEVER THE TRUTH IS, YOU'VE GOTTA LIVE FAST!





IF THE MEDIUM IS TRULY THE MESSAGE, THEN GHOSTS THEMSELVES HAVE VERY LITTLE TO SAY.

AND IF STEPLADDERS CAN BE PHOTOGRAPHICALLY ERASED, THEN WE CANNOT IN GOOD CONSCIENCE DEVOTE MORE THAN A SINGLE PAGE TO --



YOUNG BRAZILIAN CARMINE MIRABELLI LOST HIS JOB IN A SHOE STORE WHEN THE STOCK REFUSED TO STAY ON THE SHELVES.

SORRY! I CANNOT ALWAYS CONTROL MY POWERFUL PSYCHIC ABILITIES!



SENSING A DIM FUTURE AS A JOBLESS POLTERGEIST CONDUIT, HE INSTEAD OPTED TO BECOME A CONJURER WHO MANIFESTED "GHOSTS" ONSTAGE.

LOOKS LIKE A GUY IN A CLOWN SUIT AND A LADY BALLERINA TO ME.

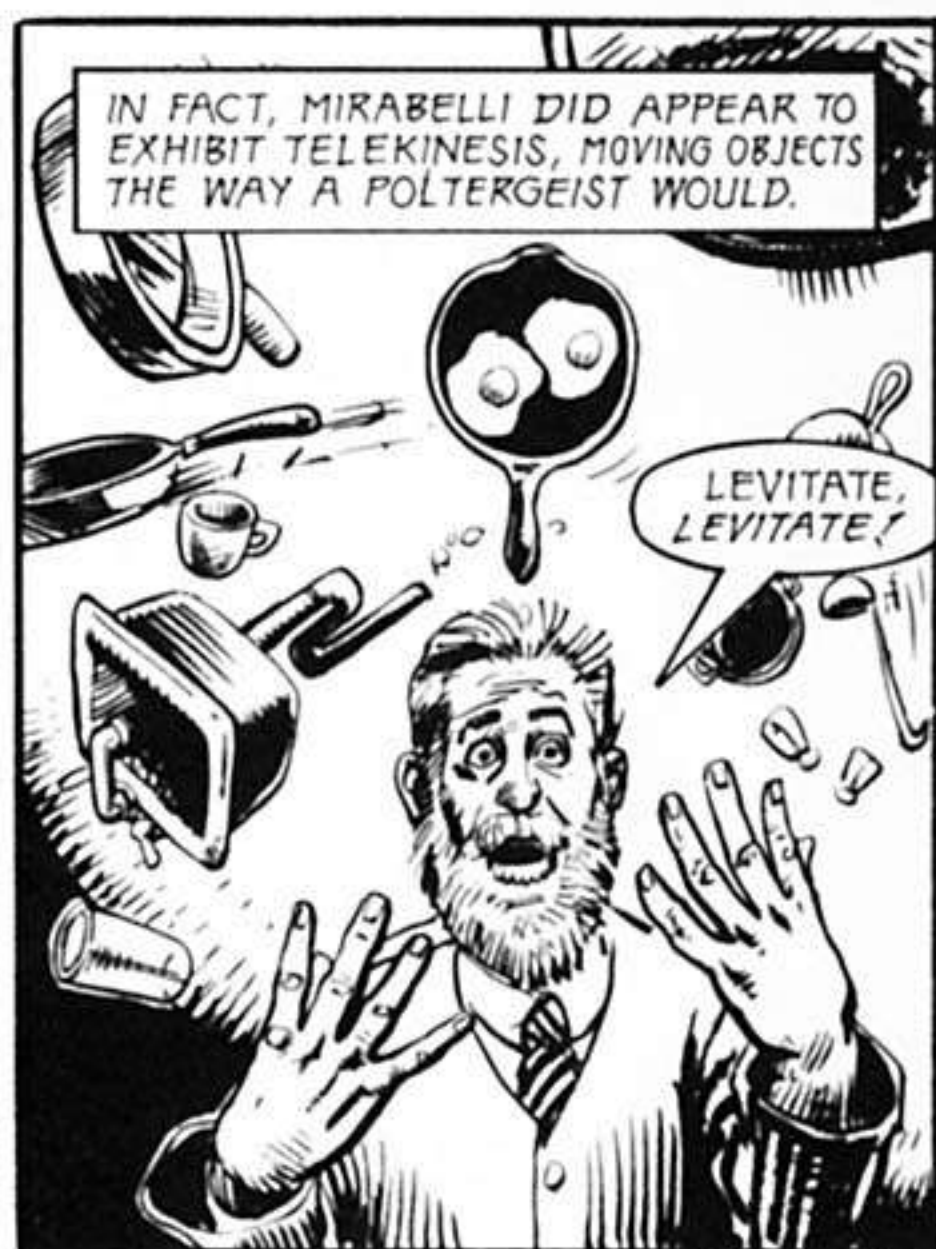
IT IS MIRACULOUS! MIRABELLI MAKES THE DEAD VISIBLE!

AND THE MARVELS DID NOT STOP THERE!



IN ADDITION TO PRODUCING SPIRITS, MIRABELLI WAS SAID TO POSSESS CERTAIN OTHER PSYCHIC POWERS, SUCH AS THE ABILITY TO LIQUEFY SOLID OBJECTS.

THANKS FOR THE LIQUID HAT.



IN FACT, MIRABELLI DID APPEAR TO EXHIBIT TELEKINESIS, MOVING OBJECTS THE WAY A POLTERGEIST WOULD.

LEVITATE, LEVITATE!



THE LARGEST SUCH OBJECT WAS NO DOUBT HIS OWN BODY, WHICH MIRABELLI ALLEGEDLY FLOATED THROUGH THIN AIR TO THE MIRACULOUS HEIGHT OF EIGHT FEET.

NO SHOES UP HERE!

WHILE A CAMERA CAUGHT MIRABELLI IN THE ACT, SKEPTICS SAY THE REAL TRICK WAS THE REMOVAL OF A STEPLADDER FROM THE PHOTO.



IN ANY CASE, THE MIRACLES CEASED IN 1951 — WHEN MIRABELLI FAILED TO LEVITATE OUT OF THE PATH OF A SPEEDING CAR.

OOPS.

THUS FAR, HIS GHOST HAS NOT MATERIALIZED.



HOME IS WHERE YOU LIVE,  
UNLESS YOU'RE DEAD—  
IN WHICH CASE IT BECOMES  
A PLACE TO HALUNT.

A PRIME CANDIDATE FOR  
THE WEIRDEST HOME IN HISTORY  
IS THE "WINCHESTER MYSTERY HOUSE,"  
NEVER FINISHED BUT ETERNALLY  
HAUNTED BY--

# BULLET GHOSTS

IF GHOSTS ARE SPIRITS TRAPPED ON  
EARTH BY TRAUMATIC DEATHS, NAMELY  
MURDER, THEN OUR TITLE CHARACTERS  
HAVE BEEN MULTIPLYING LIKE JACK-  
RABBITS EVER SINCE THE INVENTION  
OF THE GUN--

BEHOLD--  
DEATH  
INCARNATE!

SCARY!

-- WHILE THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE WINCHESTER  
REPEATING RIFLE IN THE 1800s CAUSED A  
BULLET GHOST POPULATION EXPLOSION!

ALL THESE GHOSTS HAD TO HAUNT  
SOMEONE, SO WHY NOT THE WIDOW  
OF THE RIFLE'S CREATOR?

WHEW!  
THIS SURE IS A  
LOT OF BLOOD  
MONEY!

ENTER SARAH WINCHESTER, WHO  
INHERITED THE ENTIRE WINCHESTER  
REPEATING ARMS FORTUNE UPON  
THE DEATH OF HER HUSBAND  
WILLIAM IN 1884.

SEEKING COMFORT, WILLIAM'S GRIEVING  
WIDOW ATTENDED A SEANCE AND WAS  
TOLD BY THE HELPFUL MEDIUM:

THE SOULS OF THE VICTIMS  
KILLED BY YOUR HUSBAND'S  
RIFLES -- AND THERE ARE THOU-  
SANDS OF THEM -- SEEK  
REVENGE!

WH-WHAT...  
WHAT SHOULD  
I DO?

ALREADY THE SPIRITS MATERIALIZE--  
AND YOUR LIFE WILL BE CURSED  
UNLESS YOU BUY A HOUSE AND  
CONTINUE ENLARGING IT FOR THE  
REST OF YOUR LIFE!

SOMEHOW THIS MADE  
SENSE TO SARAH.







OTHER DOORS OPENED ONTO NOTHING BUT SOLID WALLS.



AND SINCE GHOSTS WERE SUPPOSEDLY ATTRACTED TO CUPBOARDS, SARAH FILLED HER INCREASINGLY BIZARRE HOUSE WITH 2000 OF THEM, ALL IN AWKWARD SHAPES AND MANY ONLY AN INCH DEEP.



WHILE SOME STAIRWAYS LED STRAIGHT TO A SOLID CEILING, OTHERS LITERALLY WENT NOWHERE.



AND STILL THE HAMMERS WHACKED-- TO THE TUNE OF EIGHT FLOORS AND 750 ROOMS SPRAWLING ACROSS SIX ACRES, WITH 2000 DOORS, 10,000 WINDOWS, 47 FIREPLACES, 52 SKYLIGHTS, 40 STAIRWAYS, 6 KITCHENS, 3 ELEVATORS... AND ONE SHOWER.



NOT TO MENTION SIX SAFES— SINCE WINCHESTER GUNS WERE STILL SELLING LIKE LETHAL HOTCAKES.

AND SO IT WENT— WITH SARAH SPENDING MUCH OF THE FORTUNE EARNED BY GUN SALES IN A DESPERATE ATTEMPT TO ELUDE THE GHOSTS CREATED BY THE GUNS SOLD.

IT BECAME A VICIOUS CIRCLE TWISTED INSIDE-OUT.



MORE GUN SALES, MORE MONEY--

MORE GUNS, MORE MURDERS --



MORE MURDERS, MORE GHOSTS--



GUESS I SHOULD GET ON OVER TO SARAH'S HOUSE.





MORE GHOSTS.  
MORE GUILT--

YOU  
SHOULD BE  
ASHAMED,  
RIFLE LADY!



ADD IT ALL UP--  
SALES, MONEY, GUNS,  
MURDERS, GHOSTS,  
GUILT--

--AND IT EQUALS THE  
LOONEST HAUNT EVER  
BUILT, AND BUILT, AND  
BUILT--



--MAKING WINCHESTER MANSION AND ITS  
PERPETUALLY IMPROVISED ADDITIONS THE  
HOUSE THAT COULDN'T KEEP UP WITH ITS  
OWN HAUNTING.

THIS MUST BE THE  
PLACE--OUR NEW HOME--  
AND YOU SURE CAN'T MISS  
IT!



AS SARAH SAW IT, EACH NEW ROOM  
FILLED UP WITH SPIRITS EVEN AS IT  
WAS COMPLETED.

YOU'VE GOT TO BUILD  
FASTER THAN THE GHOSTS  
ARE CREATED!

HEY, LADY,  
GIVE ME A BREAK!



SO WHY DIDN'T SHE JUST MOVE--  
OR BETTER YET, STOP SELLING  
GUNS?

(A CONUNDRUM RIVALING BOB  
DOLE'S VIEW THAT EVERYONE SHOULD  
HAVE GUNS IN *REAL LIFE*, BUT DON'T  
YOU *DARE* SHOW THEM IN THE *MOVIES*!)



THE PARADOX WAS  
NOT RESOLVED UNTIL  
1922, WHEN SARAH  
WINCHESTER  
FINALLY PASSED ON.

ONLY THEN DID THE HAMMERS  
FINALLY STOP POUNDING.



DID ECTOPLASMIC SPOOKS LITERALLY  
ROAM WINCHESTER HOUSE? PROBABLY  
NOT, BUT WAS SARAH HAUNTED BY THE  
SPIRITS OF THOSE SLAIN BY HER  
HUSBAND'S GUNS? *DEFINITELY*.

AND IF YOU'RE EVER IN  
SAN JOSE, TOURS OF THIS  
HOME FOR RETIRED BULLET  
GHOSTS ARE NOW AVAILABLE--  
BUT EVEN THE *GUIDES*  
GET LOST!







THE EARTHY SASS OF OUTRAGEOUS SEX GODDESS MAE WEST WAS BELIED BY A DEEP AND LASTING INTEREST IN MORE SPIRITUAL MATTERS.

IS THAT A GUN IN YOUR POCKET OR ARE YA JUST HAPPY TO SEE ME?



AFTER WEST'S DEATH IN 1980, ACCORDING TO PSYCHIC CLARISSA BERNHARDT, THE FORMER STAR BECAME A MEMBER OF THE 'CROSSOVER CLUB,' A GROUP OF SPIRITS DEDICATED TO HELPING THE NEWLY DECEASED REACH THE OTHER SIDE.

THAT'S RIGHT, SUGAR—  
COME ON UP AND  
SEE ME.



APPARENTLY LESS BENIGN WAS ANOTHER "BAD GIRL" OF HOLLYWOOD, THE NOTORIOUS EMBODIMENT OF THE WILD-PARTY "FLAPPER"—

WHADDA YA MEAN COLA? I WANNA DRINK!

--JOAN CRAWFORD.



CRAWFORD'S DAUGHTER (AND FUTURE BEST-SELLING AUTHOR) CHRISTINA CLAIMS THAT HER CHILDHOOD HOME WAS HAUNTED BY TRULY HORRIFYING ENTITIES.

HOW DARE YOU INTERRUPT ME?!

I'M FRIGHTENED, MOMMY—I KEEP SEEING THINGS!



STOP CRYING, YOU WICKED CHILD!

IN A WEIRD DOUBLE WHAMMY, "MOMMIE DEAREST" MAY HAVE PUNISHED CHRISTINA FOR THE MISDEEDS OF THE VERY GHOSTS THAT WERE TERRIFYING HER.



FURTHERMORE, CHRISTINA'S PORTRAIT OF HER ABUSIVE MOTHER — "THE LOOK ON HER FACE WHEN SHE TRIED TO KILL ME" — IS CLEARLY THE DESCRIPTION OF A WOMAN POSSESSED.

TO THIS DAY, PSYCHICS CLAIM THE CRAWFORD HOUSE IS "ASTRAL CENTRAL" FOR A HOST OF NEGATIVE SPIRITS. SUBSEQUENT OWNERS REPORT POLTERGEIST ACTIVITY, INCLUDING SPONTANEOUS FIRES ERUPTING FROM THE WALL AGAINST WHICH JOAN CRAWFORD'S HOT HEADBOARD ONCE BUMPED.





MULTIPLE WITNESSES REPORT THAT THE FORMER HOME OF TWO OTHER STARS FROM HOLLYWOOD'S GLAMOROUS HEYDAY--

SHE'S BARBARA STANWYCK.

AND HE'S ROBERT TAYLOR.

--ALSO CONTINUES TO MANIFEST SIGNS OF GHOSTS.

INVESTIGATING THE PHENOMENA-PLAGUED HOUSE, PARAPSYCHOLOGIST BARRY TAFF WAS TOLD THAT "BOOKS JUST FLEW AROUND BY THEMSELVES."

BUT THE 1976 INVESTIGATION ONLY MADE THINGS WORSE, CATALYZING A PSYCHIC STORM OF FLYING ICE-TRAYS, SHOWER HEADS, PEWTER GOBLETS, AND COINS.

MOST IMPRESSIVE, THE NEW OWNER REPORTED, WAS THE FACT THAT HIS HOUSEBOY HAD JUST QUIT AFTER "CABBAGES CHASED HIM AROUND THE HOUSE."

YOU MAKE YOUR OWN COLE SLAW, BOSS!

SHORTLY AFTER PURCHASING YET ANOTHER HAUNTED HOUSE, DANCER-ACTRESS MITZI GAYNOR INSTALLED NEW CRYSTAL CHANDELIERS, WHICH WERE PROMPTLY SENT CRASHING TO THE FLOOR BY THE DISAPPROVING GHOST OF "MRS. WALKER," THE FORMER OWNER.

ON THE OTHER HAND, GAYNOR SAYS, "MRS. WALKER" DOES LIKE CERTAIN CHANDELIERS -- AND DUSTING THEM IS "ONE CHORE THE MAIDS NEVER HAVE TO DO."

LIKE MARILYN MONROE, JAYNE MANSFIELD FOUND HERSELF TRAPPED IN SHALLOW SEXBOMB ROLLS. FRIENDS SAY SHE WAS WILLING TO TRY ANYTHING TO CHANGE THE COURSE OF HER CAREER.

ENTER ANTON LA VEY, HIGH PRIEST OF THE CHURCH OF SATAN, AND AN EQUALLY VIVID CELEBRITY OF THE DAY.

THE DEVIL MADE ME DO IT!



THE STARLET AND HER LOVER SAM BRODY VISITED LAVEY IN NOVEMBER, 1966 WHEN MANSFIELD ALLEGEDLY SOLICITED HELP FROM THE PRINCE OF DARKNESS.



BUT BRODY OFFENDED LAVEY BY FONDLING A "HOLY" STATUE OF A NUDE WOMAN.



WHEN LAVEY ORDERED HIM TO STOP, BRODY BLEW OUT SEVERAL OF THE BLACK CANDLES SURROUNDING THE STATUE.

ACCORDING TO MANSFIELD'S FRIEND MAY MANN, LAVEY SAID BRODY HAD INSULTED SATAN AND WOULD DIE WITHIN THE YEAR, AS WOULD MANSFIELD IF SHE DID NOT END HER RELATIONSHIP WITH BRODY.



THE PAIR LAUGHED OFF THE "CURSE" UNTIL MANSFIELD'S NEW SPORTS CAR (A GIFT FROM BRODY) WAS TOTALED. THE LOVERS WERE LUCKY TO SURVIVE THE CRASH.

AS IF THAT WEREN'T ENOUGH, MANSFIELD'S 5-YEAR-OLD SON ZOLTAN WAS THEN MAULED BY A "TAME" LION AS SHE POSED FOR PUBLICITY PHOTOS.



ALTHOUGH HER SON SURVIVED EMERGENCY SURGERIES, MANSFIELD INDEED FELT "CURSED" AS SHE FOUND HERSELF AT THE EYE OF WHIRLING MISFORTUNE.



IN RAPID SUCCESSION SHE ENDURED ACCUSATIONS OF ABUSE LODGED BY HER DAUGHTER JAYNE MARIE, CHARGES OF TAX EVASION, BAD PUBLICITY FROM THE FALSE CHARGE OF AN UNPAID HOTEL BILL, THE THEFT OF HER PRECIOUS DIAMONDS, AND MORE--

--ALL OF WHICH CULMINATED WHEN SHE WAS MOBBED IN RIO DE JANEIRO, STRIPPED TO THE WAIST, AND NEARLY TORN TO PIECES BY HER "FANS."

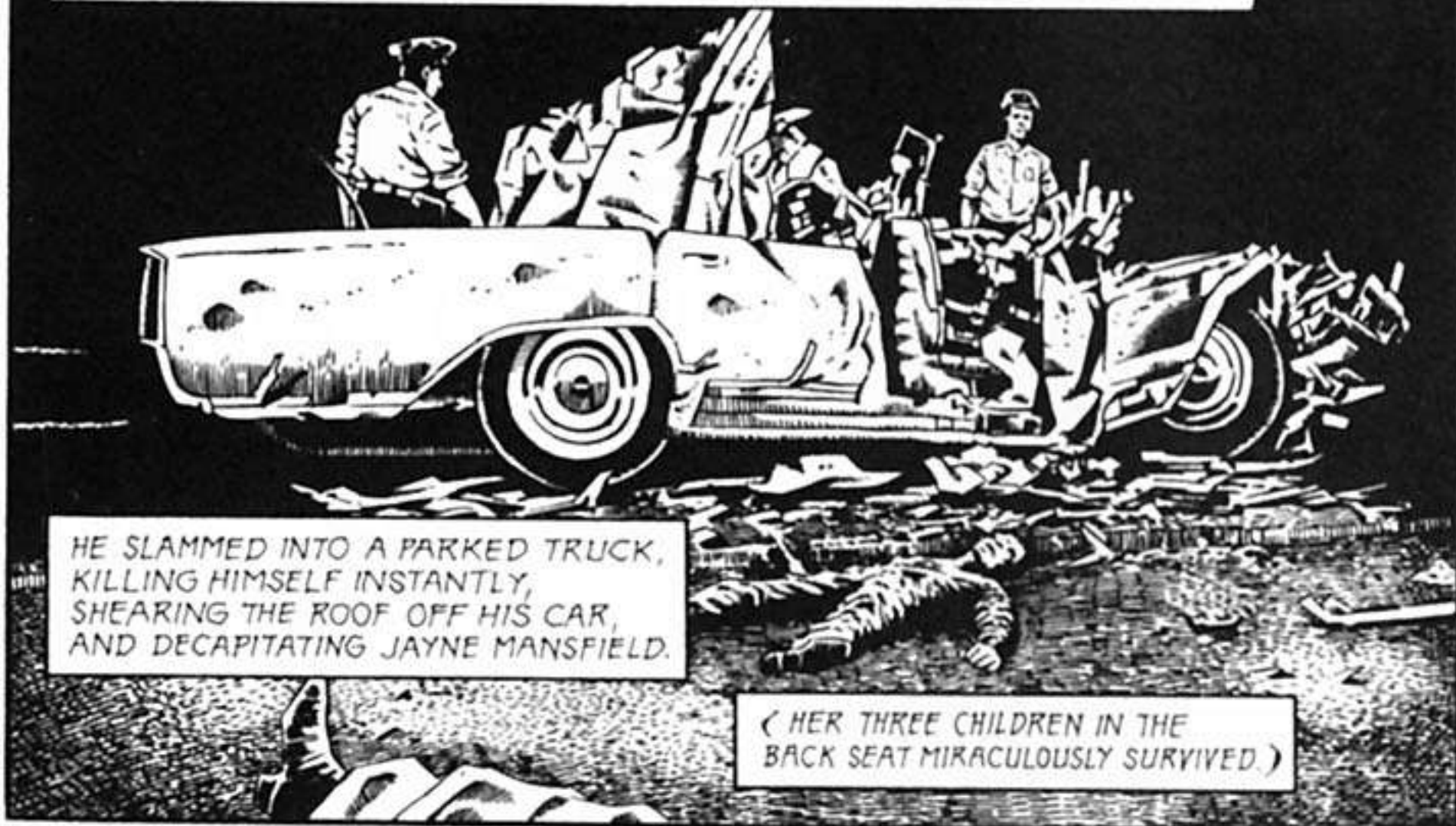




AS FOR BRODY, HE WAS ON HIS WAY TO MEET MANSFIELD WHEN HE BROKE HIS LEG AND SEVERAL RIBS IN ANOTHER CAR WRECK.



ONE WEEK LATER—ON JUNE 29, 1967, LESS THAN A YEAR AFTER HE HAD 'INSULTED SATAN'—BRODY WAS WELL ENOUGH TO DRIVE AGAIN.



HE SLAMMED INTO A PARKED TRUCK, KILLING HIMSELF INSTANTLY, SHEARING THE ROOF OFF HIS CAR, AND DECAPITATING JAYNE MANSFIELD.

(HER THREE CHILDREN IN THE BACK SEAT MIRACULOUSLY SURVIVED.)

WHILE INVESTIGATING THE ACCIDENT, PRIVATE DETECTIVE MILO SPERIGLIO FOUND THAT "JUST BEFORE MANSFIELD'S DEATH, LA VEE HAD 'ACCIDENTALLY' CUT THE HEAD OFF A PICTURE OF THE ACTRESS."



SINGER ENGLEBERT HUMPERDINCK BOUGHT MANSFIELD'S 'PINK PALACE' HOME, WHERE HE CLAIMS HE HAS SEEN THE GHOST OF ITS FORMER OWNER.



"I WAS ABOUT TO SAY, 'HELLO, JAYNE,' WHEN I REALIZED SHE WAS DEAD. I DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING. THEN SHE FADED OUT."

ANOTHER HOLLYWOOD HAUNTING BEGAN WHEN 1930s SEX SYMBOL JEAN HARLOW MARRIED PRODUCER PAUL BERN, A MAN TWICE HER AGE.



TWO MONTHS LATER, BERN WAS FOUND DEAD IN THEIR BEDROOM. HIS ALLEGED SUICIDE NOTE SUPPOSEDLY REFERRED TO "SEXUAL VIOLENCE" RESULTING FROM IMPOTENCE, ALTHOUGH SOME FEEL THIS WAS CONCOCTED AFTER HIS MURDER.



THIRTY-FOUR YEARS LATER, THE BERN HOUSE BELONGED TO HAIRDRESSER JAY SEBRING, WHOSE LOVER, SHARON TATE, WAS DISTURBED ONE NIGHT BY STRANGE NOISES AND A "FUNNY FEELING."



TURNING ON A LAMP, SHE WAS TERRIFIED TO SEE A GHOST: "I SAW THIS CREEPY LITTLE MAN. HE LOOKED LIKE PAUL BERN."



TATE FLED THE BEDROOM AND RUSHED DOWN THE STAIRS INTO EVEN GREATER HORROR — ANOTHER SPECTRAL FIGURE, THIS ONE TIED TO THE STAIRCASE AND GUSHING BLOOD FROM ITS SLASHED THROAT.



WHILE SHE COULD NOT IDENTIFY THE HOODED FIGURE, TATE SOMEHOW "KNEW" WITH COLD DREAD THAT IT WAS EITHER HERSELF OR HER LOVER JAY SEBRING.

TWO YEARS LATER, SHARON TATE CHANGED HOUSES WHEN SHE MARRIED ROMAN POLANSKI, WHO HAD JUST MADE THE BLACK MAGIC AND DEMONISM MOVIE *ROSEMARY'S BABY*.



EVEN AFTER BECOMING PREGNANT, SOME SOURCES SAY, TATE CONTINUED EXPERIMENTS WITH DRUGS, "BLACK MAGIC," AND "KINKY SEX." AND, ON THE NIGHT OF AUGUST 9-10, 1969, WITH HUSBAND POLANSKI OUT OF THE COUNTRY, SHARON TATE WAS RITUALLY SLAUGHTERED (ALONG WITH FORMER LOVER JAY SEBRING) BY FOLLOWERS OF REAL-LIFE SATANIST CHARLES MANSON.



JOHN LENNON, WHOSE FATALLY MISCONSTRUED MUSIC "INSPIRED" THE MANSON FAMILY'S BLOOD ORGIES, WAS MURDERED ELEVEN YEARS LATER OUTSIDE HIS HOME--



--NEW YORK'S SUPPOSEDLY HAUNTED DAKOTA BUILDING, THE SAME PLACE WHERE *ROSEMARY'S BABY* HAD BEEN CONCEIVED BY THE DEVIL.

A "CURSE" ATTACHED TO THE MOVIE *POLTERGEIST* IS SAID TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEATHS OF SEVERAL PRINCIPAL ACTORS, INCLUDING YOUNG HEATHER O'ROURKE--

THEY'RE HE-ERE!



--WHILE THE SAME FILM NEARLY KILLED NOMINAL DIRECTOR TOBE HOOPER'S CAREER--

--AFTER RUMORS CLAIMED THE REAL DIRECTOR WAS STEVEN SPIELBERG, RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ALIEN EPIC *E.T. THE EXTRATERRESTRIAL* (SET AT THE WITCHES' SABBATH OF HALLOWEEN), AND WHO HAS THIS TO SAY:

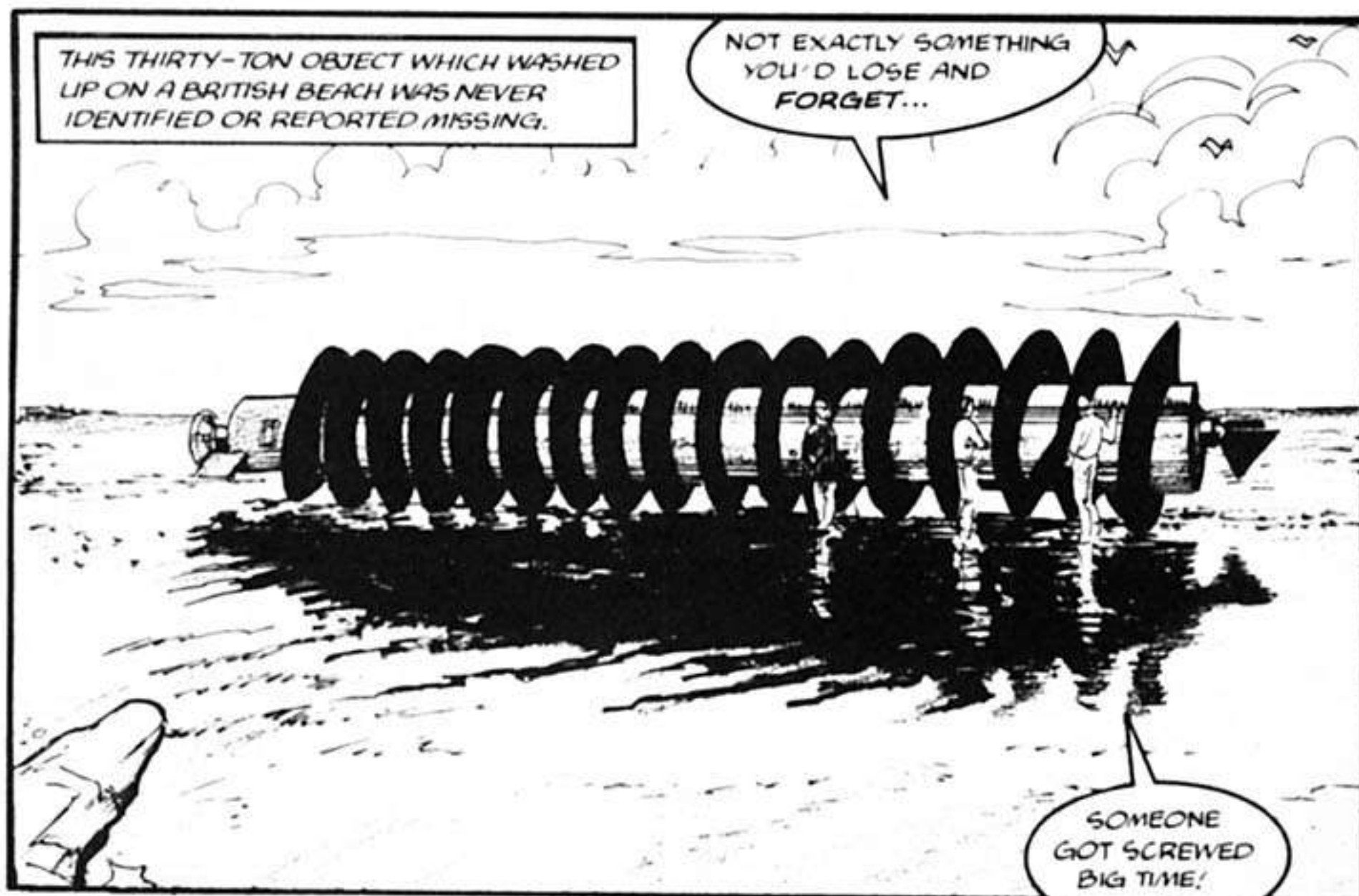
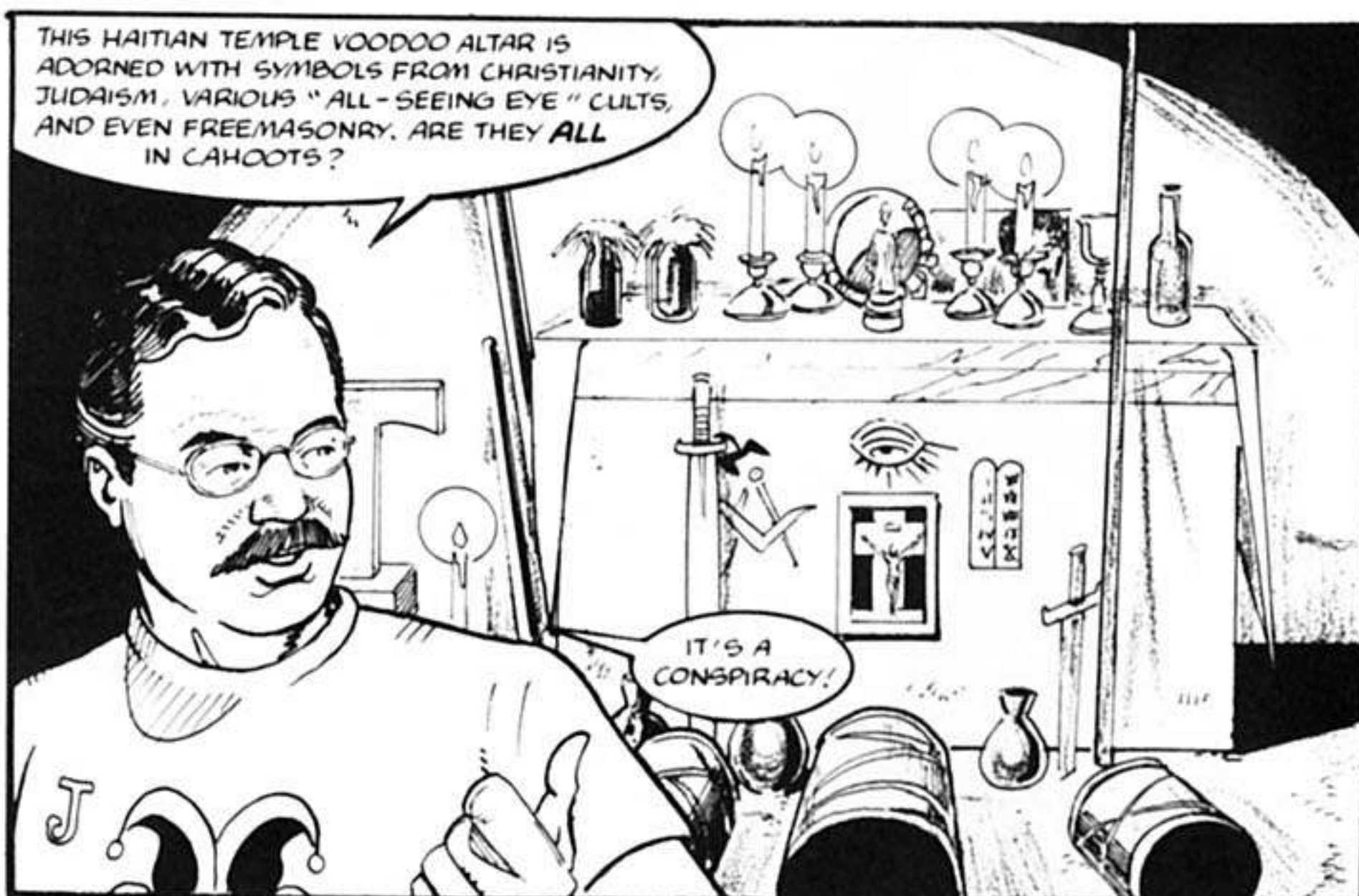
I'VE NEVER SEEN A UFO, BUT GHOSTS... THAT'S ANOTHER STORY.



AND ONLY ONE OF MANY, AS WE'VE SEEN, IN HAUNTED HOLLYWOOD.









# Afterword

AND THERE YOU HAVE IT, WHATEVER "IT" MAY BE — THE BIZARRE, THE UNEXPLAINED, PARANORMAL PHENOMENA, THE SUPERNATURAL — CALL IT WHAT YOU WILL, IT WILL NEVER BE TRULY NAMED.

AND SINCE EVERY TWIST AND TURN OF ITS KALEIDOSCOPIC MAZE HAS BEEN MARKED BY THE COSMIC TRICKSTER, EVEN AT THE END WE REMAIN LOST.

IN ANY CASE, I TRUST YOU'VE ENJOYED THIS SERIES OF SIGHTS NOT SEEN BY EVERY EYE, AS WELL AS A TANTALIZING WHIFF OF THE UTTERLY STRANGE--

--A WILD RIDE FIT FOR NEITHER THE FAINT OF HEART NOR THE HARDENED OF MIND.

WE'VE CONFRONTED PHANTOMS AND ALIENS, MONSTERS AND ANGELS, POLTERGEISTS AND PREMONITIONS, UFOS AND UNKNOWN ANIMALS, COMMUNICATING CROPS AND SINISTER SYNCHRONICITIES--

--AN ENTIRE HOST OF MORE THINGS THAN ARE DREAMT OF IN **ANY** PHILOSOPHY.

LONG AFTER SHAKESPEARE, ALDOUS HUXLEY CONCURRED WITH THE BARD'S SENTIMENT: "WE HAVE LEARNT THAT NOTHING IS SIMPLE AND RATIONAL, THAT SCIENCE 'EXPLAINS' NOTHING--

"-- THAT THE MORE WE KNOW, THE MORE FANTASTIC THE WORLD BECOMES, AND THE PROFOUNDER THE SURROUNDING DARKNESS."

I CAN ONLY ADD THAT A MIND ONCE EXPANDED NEVER CONTRACTS.

AND I CAN ONLY HOPE THAT YOUR NEURONS, NOW SPARKED BY NEW LIGHT, WILL NEVER BE SMALL AGAIN...



# BIOGRAPHIES

## WRITERS

### DOUG MOENCH

Doug Moench has been obsessed with his own unexplained past ever since he was abducted from a hillside of Scottish heather at the age of 7 and again in the north woods of Manitoba at the age of 12. Orange globes seem to dog him, and a Bigfoot apparition recently invaded his Pennsylvania home (although he has yet to spot the Loch Ness monster).

## ARTISTS

### BILL ALGER

Former child televangelist and current liquor-soused vagrant, Bill Alger draws kids' comics for a childless society. (Page 98)

### BRENT ANDERSON

June 1955. Born. Grew. Read. Drew. Wrote. Drew more. Read comics. UFO abductee. Wrote and drew comics. Hypnosis successful. 1976. Professional. Waiting. 1994. Married. 1995. Kid. Tired. 'Bye. (Page 55)

### SERGIO ARAGONÉS

Sergio is the creator of the award-winning comic *Groo*. His comics and illustrations have appeared in *MAD* and in numerous other comics over the years. (Page 36)

### HILARY BARTA

Hilary lives with his husband Joe Staton — wait, that isn't right... (Page 167)

### DONALD DAVID

While working on pages for this book, Donald was abducted by a Venusian Love Goddess. She offered to take him to her Love Planet, but Donald had to refuse because he had a Paradox Press assignment to finish. Now that's dedication! (Page 68)

### DAVE DEVRIES

Dave is not too well.  
He wears his shorts until they smell.  
He eats fried beans and stirs the air  
To suffocate bugs that live in his hair.  
AAAAAARRRGH!  
(Page 163)

### D'ISRAELI D'EMON DRAUGHTSMAN

D'Israeli still lives in Sheffield with his mummy, but his nice kitty has fled. Perhaps that business with the bulldog clips was too much for him. (Page 8)

### RANDY DuBURKE

Randy's work for DC Comics includes covers of *Animal Man*, *The Darkstars*, *Ms. Tree*, and *The Shadow*. He drew the story "Tunnel Rats" for the DC/Vertigo anthology *Weird War Tales*, as well as *Hunter's Heart*, a graphic novel in the Paradox Mystery line. (Page 42)

### HUNT EMERSON

Hunt Emerson lurks 100 feet in the air, in sight of the New Hindu Temple on Soho Road. At night, the dome is lit from below in blue light. (Page 84)

### JIM FERN

Jim started as an inker on various Marvel titles in 1983. He began pencilling in 1987, and has drawn *L.E.G.I.O.N '90*, *Detective Comics*, *Adventures of Superman*, and the *Scarlett* series for DC. (Page 146)

### GARY FIELDS

Gary turned to cartooning after an unsuccessful attempt at becoming an Olympic volleyball player. He lives with his wife, Cindy, and two children, Aimee and Max. (Page 28)

### BOB FINGERMAN

When Bob isn't drawing weird stuff for Paradox, he's illustrating his comic *Minimum Wage* from Fantagraphics. So just go buy it. (Page 122)

### RICK GEARY

Rick's illustrations appear occasionally in *MAD*. He continues to write and illustrate a series of children's books featuring "The Mask" for Dark Horse Comics. His next graphic novel is *The Borden Tragedy* for NBM. (Page 147)

### PAUL GUINAN

Once a cynical, bitter, raging punk, Paul now lives with his wife in a quiet house with a picket fence. He blames their dog's secret brain ray for the turnabout. (Page 50)

### PAUL GULACY

Gulacy is well known for getting Helfer's butt out of the sling in crunch-time situations. (Page 76)

### FRED HARPER

*Animal Man*, for DC/Vertigo, *Marvel Comics Presents*, *Ghost Rider*, and *Dr. Strange* for Marvel, *Culture Clash* and *Lady Justice* for Big Entertainment, and *The Big Book of Little Criminals* for Paradox Press. (Page 171)

### RUSS HEATH

Russ's career includes work for Harvey Kurtzman's *MAD*, *Blazing Combat*, *National Lampoon*, and long stints on *Sgt. Rock* and other DC war comics. Recent work: *The Punisher* and *Legends of the Dark Knight*. (Page 70)

### GRAHAM HIGGINS

Graham began drawing comix for Birmingham Arts Lab Press in the mid-'70s under the name "Pokkettz." His work has appeared in almost every Big Book in the series. He is a very fine fellow and has never been abducted by aliens. (Page 102)

### RAFAEL KAYANAN

Currently pencilling *Turok* for Acclaim Comics, an *X-Files* adaptation for Topps, and the *Turok* game manual for the Nintendo Playstation. (Page 134)



## STEVEN LIEBER

Steven pronounces his surname LEE-burr, not LYE-burr. He's worked on *Hawkman*, *Lady Justice*, *Detective Comics*, *Dark Horse Presents*, *Roadways*, and a three-part *Grendel Tales* story arc due out in '97. (Page 19)

## STEVE LEIALOHA

Steve has been in the comics biz long enough to draw many stories in the Big Book series as well as the DC Comics time-travel series *Chronos*. He is a faithful subscriber to the *Fortean Times*. (Page 154)

## GRAHAM MANLEY

Graham is believed to be in hiding from the police somewhere in Scotland. He is wanted for crimes against the comic strip form. (Page 176)

## STEVE MANNION

Steve says he has no idea what is going on. (Page 58)

## TED NAIFEH

Ted is most noted for *The Machine* from Dark Horse's super-hero line. (Page 168)

## JOE ORLANDO

Joe edited all those great DC comics in the '60s and '70s that didn't have super-people in them, like *Angel and the Ape*, and the original *House of Secrets*. He recently retired after being a big VP and Creative Director. And you thought his only asset was his good looks. (Page 53)

## TAYYAR OZKAN

Tayyar has drawn *Bushwhacked*, *Pet*, and *Cave Bang* for Eros, as well as inking the "Weird Romance" story arc for *The Dreaming*. His book *Caveman: Evolution Heck* recently came out from NBM. He also drew *La Pacifica*, written by Joel Rose and Amos Poe, the first graphic novel in the Paradox Mystery line. (Page 159)

## JEFF PARKER

Parker loves to draw thugs, but is most happy writing and drawing his own adventure comic *Great Divide*. (Page 21)

## RICK PARKER

Rick drew MTV's *Beavis and Butt-head* for Marvel, and many Big Book stories for Paradox. He is, as those who know him will attest, both unexplained and inexplicable. (Page 82)

## JOE PHILLIPS

In his ten years in comics Jeff has drawn *Ex-Mutants*, *Speed Racer*, *Justice League*, *Fantastic Four*, *Spider-Man*, and many others. He recently did *The Heretic*, which was published by Dark Horse. (Page 136)

## GORDON PURCELL

Gordon is inexplicably entering his tenth year as a comics artist. He has worked on three *Star Trek* titles, *Flash*, *Silver Sable*, and currently *The X-Files*. Why he spends January in Minnesota with his wife and child is truly unexplained. (Page 182)

## JOE SACCO

Joe is the author of *Palestine*, which won a 1995 American Book Award and is published by Fantagraphics. Currently, he is working on a series of stories about his experiences in Bosnia. (Page 111)

## ERIC SHANOWER

Eric's current comics work can be seen in *Weird War Tales*, *Harlan Ellison's Dream Corridor*, and *Oz-Story*. He is working on a major comics project involving the most beautiful woman in the world. (Page 5 and 183)

## TED SLAMPYAK

Ted created, wrote, and drew *Jazz Age Chronicles* for Caliber Press, penciled Neil Gaiman's *Mr. Hero* for Big Entertainment, and *Roadways* for Cult Press. He lives in Bristol, Pennsylvania with poet/writer Rachel Astarte Piccione. (Page 30)

## ROBIN SMITH

Robin was the art director for *2000 AD*, and an artist on *Judge Dredd*. He is the illustrator of the recently released *Green Candles* and forthcoming book *The Bogie Man*, two graphic novels in the Paradox Graphic Mystery line. (Page 15)

## STEVE SMITH

Steve has been using the alphabet for many years. Other examples of his penmanship and pictures may be found in *Negative Burn*, *Aesop's Desecrated Fables*, and along the 101 freeway. (Page 162)

## JOE STATON

Joe has worked for Marvel on *The Incredible Hulk*, and for DC, illustrating *Superman*, *Batman*, *Plastic Man*, *Green Lantern*, and many others. Joe illustrated *Family Man*, a graphic novel in the Paradox Mystery line written by Jerome Charyn. (Page 124)

## TOM SUTTON

Sutton should get more money than the other artists. He uses three times as much ink. Is India Ink made from real Indians? It's getting darker. (Page 172)

## WARD SUTTON

Ward is: a syndicated cartoonist (*Ward's Cleaver*, *Schlock 'N Roll*), a comic book author (*Ink Blot*), a rock poster artist (for Pearl Jam and Beck) and a freelance illustrator (*Rolling Stone*, *Entertainment Weekly*, and others). (Page 40)

## S.M. TAGGART

Girded against the coming apocalypse, Mr. Taggart asks that you all knock before entering his bunker as this would allow him time to load his rifle. (Page 128)

## ANDREW WENDEL

Andrew was a portrait artist for *The New Yorker* and is fueled by passions for music, cycling, and the bizarre. His work has also appeared in three Paradox Big Books: *Urban Legends*, *Death*, and *Conspiracies*. (Page 94)

## J.H. WILLIAMS III

Penciler J.H. Williams III was born in Roswell, New Mexico and has been known to see little green men on occasion. However, his extraterrestrial inker Mick Gray isn't sure if these are actually close encounters of the drunken kind. (Page 63)

## GAHAN WILSON

Gahan's cartoons have appeared in *Playboy*, *The New Yorker*, *Gourmet*, *Punch*, *Paris Match*, and many others. He has had sixteen collections of his cartoons published. He is also the author of *The Big Book of Freaks* from Paradox Press. (Page 87)



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